

AN
ENQUIRY
INTO THE
PRICES
OF
WHEAT, MALT,
AND OCCASIONALLY OF
OTHER PROVISIONS;
OF
LAND and CATTLE, &c.

As Sold in ENGLAND, from the Year 1000 to the
Year 1765;

Computed according to the WINCHESTER MEASURE,
and to the present Standard of ENGLISH COIN,

Divided into PERIODS of TEN YEARS each, and also into
PERIODS of CIRCUMSTANCES.

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P R E F A C E.

INDUSTRY is the foundation both of our support and enjoyments; properly directed, it gives immense power to the smallest states; diverted from its right channels, thereby, large empires sicken and decay: where the bare necessities of life are the only object, the people are few, savage and weak; the land lays uncultivated, and however rich the soil, it is but of little worth: to enjoy conveniencies, more application, more labour, and a greater number of men become necessary; and if to these, we would add elegance and knowledge, not agriculture alone, but science, arts, manufactures, and trade must fill every space: thus a kingdom gains plenty of subjects, and from them derive its strength and riches.

Gold itself is an inert useless dross; unless by commerce, or by its being exchanged for other commodities it is made to become of value: hence it is that trade is said to be the real riches of a country; and in proportion as the balance of this is in favour of a state, does its power increase, and its lands rise in value: to obtain and preserve this balance, it is necessary to be possessed of the materials of trade, and not of these alone, but of a numerous and industrious people, in the cheapest and best manner to form such materials for the purposes of commerce; for as nations exchange their mutual advantages, such profit most, who with their native produce export the greatest share of labour, under more favourable circumstances as to quality and price, than can be done by their neighbours, or their rivals in trade.

Industry and labour being the only properties the poor possess, on these they depend for a sufficient quantity of money to procure to themselves the necessities and conveniencies of life; consequently not bread or corn only, but every requisite to their well doing, to their support, or to recruit their exhausted spirits; and it must be observed the greatest exertion of strength is put forth, where the most trade is, where the people are neither penuriously nor luxuriously fed; and that improvements and invention take place where the mind, relieved from a continued labour, has time given to it for reflection, and where a decent liberty not libertinism dwells.

As the strength and power of a kingdom depend upon the number of its people, and of their being usefully employed; and as the poor with the greatest facility, remove labour and industry, their properties, together with themselves; so it becomes a matter of the greatest consequence, that provisions should be kept at moderate prices in order to retain them: in doing this, husbandry should be cherished, not exalted beyond its rank in life: to maintain his superior station, the land-owner has a full right to so much rent, as is in proportion to the best national interest money bears; the farmer's neat profit,

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for his stock, labour, and industry, has always been thought to be equitable when equal to the rent he pays, and this uniformly should be secured to him by the clearest and wisest laws; under these terms, the price of provisions and of labour must be moderate, arts and manufactures must prosper, rents must gradually rise, for the value of land in every trading kingdom must be in proportion to the number and riches of the people.

For some years past great complaints have been made of the high prices of provisions; people of middling station have expressed their concern; the poor have been urged to extremities, labour has increased in price, trade has decayed, and the country has thinned of people: when the necessities of life are made to reach an extraordinary value, though many are thereby injured, yet some individuals must be enriched; such undoubtedly will use every pretence, every art, to preserve to themselves the source of their opulence; every means will be taken to divert the attention of the publick from the cause; the records of past ages will be ransacked and misrepresented, the reason will be laid sometimes on one, then on another, often on complicated circumstances; the authors of the evil will affect to pray a temporary relief, cautiously, on one article alone, when the necessity thereof lays equally throughout the whole; all these managements may lately have been observed. To detect the true cause of the complaints of the people, is the principal intent of this enquiry: from the best informations I could procure, I have traced the prices of provisions for many years past, reduced them to our present standard of money; as often as it lay in my power, I have noted the concurring reasons, and the circumstances of the age. These prices brought down to the year 1765, that period of the time when they have been affected by the bounty granted to export corn, I have compared with the nearest and most similar æra, and by this and other facts have shewn, the effect of this extraordinary gratuity given to send the grain of England abroad when at high rates, has really increased the price thereof, and of every other necessary of life: the national loss from hence occasioned, will point out the want of relief; and as neither increased rents, excessive consumption at home, civil wars, unseasonable weather, taxes, or the debasing the current coin of the kingdom, have upon the whole brought on the calamity complained of; I have been obliged to search into the profits of those whose business originally it is to rear up sustenance for mankind: if these profits appear to have been such as account for the consequences, the cause that raised this power, if not wholly retrenched, at least should be mitigated, so as to preserve to the kingdom its peace, its strength, its industry, and its riches.

A N
E N Q U I R Y
I N T O T H E
P R I C E S
O F
W H E A T, M A L T, &c.

P A R T I.

S E C T I O N I.

A Collection of the prices of the necessaries of life from the earliest time of the British empire to the present age, and reduced to our present standard coin, will help us to form a general idea of the circumstances of those ages. With regard to an entire dependence upon the exactness of the facts, in order to make comparisons, they must be but of little use: the accounts handed down to us concerning these matters, are but few in number, such only as fixed the attention of the recorders; in general they are relations of famines, dearths, and unseasonable years: the true identity of the measures they used, the places at which such prices were made, what intercourse there was between the several parts of the island, these, and many other incidents are not sufficiently known to us, to form a perfect idea of what was the true mean value of provisions at that time. So late as within one century of the present age, the growing of corn in England was not the chief object of agriculture, meadow and pasture lands to feed sheep for the sake of their wool, appeared to them more eligible: before this time, when the people were disturbed by wars or civil distractions, their riches, their flocks, were easiest removed from out of the reach of their enemy; and in times of peace their unwrought wools were of certain sale to foreigners. Little more must be expected from the former part of this treatise, than so much as hereafter should prevent needless quotations, and the outlines

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of a long space of time ; to which in general to compare the present state of husbandry and the present state of the corn-trade of England must be but of little service : it will rather inform us of this, that the power of the kingdom has always been proportionably great, as the legislature countenanced and patronised arts, manufactures, and industry.

Before the landing of Cæsar, but a small part of the island, chiefly that which faced Gaul, was improved by tillage and agriculture ; little as this was, the continual contests between the natives and the Romans, rather lessened than increased it. When these last abandoned their conquest, the Britains had to resist the incursions of the Picts and Scots, who, despoiling the lands, subjected the people to frequent famines ; thus distressed, they invited the Saxons to assist them : these, a people wholly devoted to war, discouraged agriculture, fomented divisions among the allies they came to assist, and even joined with their enemies. Confusion, war, dearths and misery were the consequences : the restless Saxons rose superior to this anarchy ; but rather than polish the people and improve the land, they continued the war among themselves : a weak divided government took place, if that can be called government, where neither harmony nor bread existed ; for such was the rudeness and supineness of the times, that Saxred and Siward, the conjunct kings of Essex, expressing great desire to eat of the white bread distributed at the christian communion, it was refused them, because idolaters ; in return, they banished Meltitus the bishop. At last Egbert subdued the seven little kingdoms under his dominion ; some small improvement must have been the consequence, as about this time the clergy obtained their tenths or tythes ; but the inroads of the Danes prevented every peaceful occupation ; a continued war engrossed the whole of their attention, until again it was terminated by Alfred the great, who introduced laws, agriculture and manufactures, that these might be a mutual support to each other.

At the death of this prince, peace fled from the land ; the Danes again began their incursions, which continued many years under various appearances. In the year of our Lord 994, Ethelred the second submitted to the yoke ; he became tributary to these invaders, and purchased peace for * 93,000l. of our present money, which he raised on the lands of England, a tax which from the frequent use that was afterwards made of it for this purpose, justly obtained the appellation of Dane-gelt.

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* As this treatise was designedly wrote for the use of the present age, and for the people of England, the prices recorded are reduced to our present standard coin, according to the rules set down where needful ; it is hoped this will be found to be done with some accurateness ; it is no more than translating the money of the several ages into our present language.

The Saxon pound weight of silver was 12 ounces troy, and divided into 48 shillings, each shilling was 5 pence of their money, and the Saxon penny was equal to 3 pence of our's ; the Saxon mark was 6 of their shillings.

An. Dom. 1001.

The purchase of land was from 5 pence to 1s. 3d. per acre, a horse was worth 1l. 17s. 6d. a mare 1l. 5s. a cow 6s. a sheep 1s. 3d. a goat 2s. 9d. a mule 15s. an ox 7s. 6d.

The year following the weak Ethelred ordered a general massacre to be made of the Danes found in England: this treachery was soon revenged by a descent their countrymen made, to whom he paid 90,000l. to retire, and raised this by a land-tax of 1s. 3d. on every hyde of land: the consequence of this inroad and the heavy tax laid, was a grievous famine. In a time when agriculture was continually depressed, what malt-liquor was made, historians hint was chiefly used by the gentry. In the year 1007, by some dissensions among the nobles, the war was renewed; the Danes remaining victors, 108,000l. was given them to purchase peace. These frequent demands seem to have stimulated the English to provide better for their defence; for, the ensuing year, 310 hydes of land were taxed to furnish a ship ready for war, and every 8 hydes one horseman; England was computed to contain 243,600 hydes: but Ethelred's pusillanimity appears again; in 1012 he pays to his same enemy 144,000l. For his ill conduct and repeated acts of cowardice he is betrayed, flies to Normandy, and the English swear allegiance to the Dane Sweyn. In 1017, Canute the great obtained the crown; he levied a dane-gelt of 216,000l. but this tax, so oppressive to agriculture, seems for some reasons to have been suspended, as any payment thereof does not appear until 1039, and then it caused an insurrection.

An. Dom. 1041.

Wheat was 15 s. 3d $\frac{1}{2}$ per quarter.

An. Dom. 1043.

Wheat was 15 s. 3d $\frac{1}{2}$ per quarter; two remarkable famines; corn was dearer than had been known within the memory of man; the cause of the first is not mentioned, that of the latter is said to be occasioned by lightnings, which burnt the grain growing in the fields; to this disaster an earthquake succeeded.

An. Dom. 1052 and 1054.

Both these years wheat sold for 14 s. 6d. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1055.

Wheat 15 s. per quarter.

Historians note this for a most terrible famine; in the year 1066 William the conqueror landed.

If we consider that during this period of time the Saxons and Danes, accustomed to live under the feudal laws, were mostly addicted to arms and chivalry; that they practised arts and agriculture but so much only as necessity compelled them to; that writing

ting was extremely scarce, trade rather despised than encouraged, and by no means represented in their wittena-gemotes; that the whole expence of government was defrayed by their kings and the landed interest; we shall not be surpris'd to find so scanty accounts, and these only of famines, circumstances which they scarcely endeavoured to remove, and which we find recorded because they most affected them.

If it is permitted from these few informations, to conjecture the mean price of wheat during this period, I believe we shall not be far from truth to fix it at 1 s. 6 d. per quarter; the price of malt and of other grain will hereafter be noted, as far as the knowledge of them can be obtained; when not, this rule is general, Rye is two thirds of the value of wheat, barley one half, oats one third, beans and pease the same price with rye.

Mean Price of the Necessaries of Life from the Year of CHRIST 1000, to the Landing of King William the Conqueror 1066.

Purchase of land	Rent of land per acre	Interest of money	Wheat per quarter	Malt per quarter	Sea-coals per chaldron	Hay per load
£. 0 0 9 per acre			Conjectured £. 0 1 6			
Price of cattle	Price of fowls	Butchers meat per stone	Ale and beer	Linen and woollen cloths	Butter and cheese	Wages and labour
A horse - 1, 17, 6 A mare - 1, 5, 0 A cow - 0, 6, 0 A swine 0, 2, 0 A sheep 0, 1, 3 An ox - 0, 7, 6						

A TABLE exhibiting the standard-weight, value and comparative view of English silver-money, from King WILLIAM I. A. D. 1066 to A. D. 1765.

Dates of the several mint indentures	Standard of the silver at each period		Number of shillings, &c. the pound or 12 ozs. troy of standard silver has been coined into at each period	Weight of 20 shillings in tale of standard silver at each period	Weight of fine silver contained in 20 shillings in tale at each period	Value of the same 20 shillings in tale in our present money	Proportion of money at each period, to our present money	Value of the ounce of standard silver, in present money	Value of the ounce of fine silver at each period
	Fine silver	Alloy							
A. D.	oz. dts.	oz. dts.	sh. d.	oz. dts. grs.	oz. dwts. grs.	l. s. d.		sh. d.	sh. d.
1066	11 2	0 18	21 4	11 5 0	10 8 3	2 18 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	2,9062	5 2	1 11 $\frac{1}{8}$
1087	11 2	0 18	20 0	12 0 0	11 2 0	3 2 0	3,1000	5 2	1 9 $\frac{5}{8}$
1300	11 2	0 18	20 3	11 17 1	10 19 6	3 1 2 $\frac{3}{4}$	3,0614	5 2	1 9 $\frac{3}{8}$
1347	11 2	0 18	22 6	10 13 8	9 17 8	2 15 1 $\frac{3}{8}$	2,7557	5 2	2 0 $\frac{3}{8}$
1354	11 2	0 18	25 0	9 12 0	8 17 14 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 9 7 $\frac{1}{4}$	2,4802	5 2	2 3
1395									
1402									
1412	11 2	0 18	32 0	7 10 0	6 18 18	1 18 9	1,9375	5 2	2 10 $\frac{5}{8}$
1422	11 2	0 18	30 0	8 0 0	7 8 0	2 1 4	2,0666	5 2	2 8 $\frac{1}{2}$
1422	11 2	0 18	37 6	6 8 0	5 18 10	1 13 0 $\frac{3}{4}$	1,6531	5 2	3 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
1426	11 2	0 18	30 0	8 0 0	7 8 0	2 1 4	2,0666	5 2	2 8 $\frac{1}{2}$
1446									
1461									
1464	11 2	0 18	37 6	6 8 0	5 18 10	1 13 0 $\frac{3}{4}$	1,6531	5 2	3 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
1482									
1483									
1494	11 2	0 18	40 0	6 0 0	5 11 0	1 11 0	1,5500	5 2	3 7 $\frac{1}{4}$
1505									
1509									
1532	11 2	0 18	45 0	5 6 16	4 18 16	1 7 6 $\frac{3}{8}$	1,3776	5 2	4 0 $\frac{5}{8}$
1543	10 0	2 0	48 0	5 0 0	4 3 8	1 3 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,1635	4 7 $\frac{7}{8}$	4 9 $\frac{5}{8}$
1545	6 0	6 0	48 0	5 0 0	2 10 0	0 13 11 $\frac{1}{8}$	0,6984	2 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 0
1546	4 0	8 0	48 0	5 0 0	1 13 8	0 9 3 $\frac{3}{4}$	0,4656	1 10 $\frac{3}{8}$	12 0
1547									
1548									
1549	6 0	6 0	72 0	3 6 16	1 13 8	0 9 3 $\frac{3}{4}$	0,4656	2 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 0
1551	3 0	9 0	72 0	3 6 16	0 16 16	0 4 7 $\frac{7}{8}$	0,2328	1 4 $\frac{3}{4}$	24 0
1553	11 1	0 19	60 0	4 0 0	3 13 16	1 0 6 $\frac{7}{8}$	1,0286	5 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 5 $\frac{1}{8}$
1553	11 0	1 0	60 0	4 0 0	3 13 8	1 0 5 $\frac{3}{4}$	1,0239	5 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 5 $\frac{1}{2}$
1560	11 2	0 18	60 0	4 0 0	3 14 0	1 0 8	1,0333	5 2	5 4 $\frac{7}{8}$
1583									
1601									
1605	11 2	0 18	62 0	3 17 10	3 11 14 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 0 0	1,0000	5 2	5 7
1627									
1661									
1671									
1685									
1764									

SECTION II.

An. Dom. 1067.

A colt sold for £. 0 2 4 $\frac{1}{2}$, a calf for £. 0 2 4 $\frac{1}{2}$.

FOR the whole term of the reign of king William the conqueror I have not been able to procure the price of wheat or of any grain. The payment of dane-gelt he imposed upon the people without necessity, the lands his Normans wasted and seized, the severe laws he enacted, the introducing again the feudal system, the backwardness in the people to till the earth under such masters, whom as yet they scarcely avowed to be the land-owners, the occasional inclemencies of the weather; all these joined to the depopulation of the country, by transporting whole armies of English to defend his foreign territories, nothing in such a period can be expected but insurrections in every part of the country, famines which introduce the use of unwholesome food, consequently pestilence and rapine: what could induce the king thus hard to treat a country, whose crown he so easily obtained, is not readily to be accounted for; his demesne lands in England were 1422 manors, his army was maintained by the feudal tenures, he had no fleet, and the treasure he left, and which his son king William II. found at Winchester, amounted to £. 186,000.

An. Dom. 1088.

Wheat sold for £. 0 3 1 per quarter, oats £. 0 1 3 per quarter.

King William II. seems to have followed the steps of his father; he taxed the land so heavily that agriculture was neglected, such famines ensued, that, at times, the living were scarce able to bury the dead; yet it doth not appear there was a want of other provisions, pasture land suited these tumultuous times much better than tillage.

An. Dom. 1095.

A ram sold for £. 0 0 3 $\frac{1}{10}$, an ox £. 0 3 0 $\frac{1}{10}$.

The purchase of land was at a very low price, occasioned by the crusade to the holy land; it is remarked the religious houses bought many estates: added to the money wanted for this holy war, the king extorted £. 20,667 more from the people to purchase Normandy from his brother, who had taken the cross: about this time earl Goodwyn's lands in Kent were overflowed, agriculture in general was neglected. In this short reign of near 13 years only, four famines are recorded.

An. Dom. 1100.

Wheat was £. 0 5 6 per quarter, sheep were sold £. 0 1 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ each.

An. Dom. 1101.

Rent of land was £. 0 1 6 per acre.

To carry on the war in Normandy king Henry I. taxed his people heavily, and for the marriage of his daughter Matilda he laid an impost of 3 s. upon every hyde of land; this amounted to

to £.139500; a sharp frost, which happened in the year 1111, brought on a great dearth, a mortality among men, and a murrain among beasts and fowls; these calamities appear to have lasted many years.

An. Dom. 1114.

Wheat sold for £.0 18 7 per quarter.

An. Dom. 1115.

Wheat sold for £.0 16 6 per quarter, a stalled ox for £.0 3 3 $\frac{1}{2}$.

In 1123 the coin was observed to be greatly clipped, from whence every kind of provision became so dear, that multitudes perished. By the intense frost which happened

An. Dom. 1125,

Wheat fetched £.0 18 7 per quarter.

These evils, added to the custom that the tenants of the king's lands were to supply him and his court with provisions and carriages gratis, when he travelled on these occasions, caused many of the people to desert their farms.

In the year 1135, king Henry I. died; his successor Stephen found in his treasure to the amount of £.330,000; but the barons, growing jealous of him, built fortresses for their safety; power in rude ages is seldom guided to the good of the publick; on every petty dispute between themselves, oftentimes to support their extravagance or indulge their rapacity, from these bulwarks they sallied forth, wasted each others lands, and exercised unbounded rapines on the people: as if this alone had not been sufficient to have kept the kingdom in a barren state, a contest for the crown sprung up between the king and the empress Matilda, which lasted eleven years; on both sides they destroyed the very instruments of husbandry, the land was unfruitful and the people in general unfed: yet we find,

An. Dom. 1140,

Wheat £.0 1 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ per quarter.

An. Dom. 1145.

The price of an ox was £.0 9 3 $\frac{1}{2}$.

What must have added to their troubles was, that all the great men of the realm, the bishops, the earls and barons, about the year 1149, coined their own monies; this increased the price of provisions, as it was attended with many impositions and losses to the nation in general, but more especially to the trading part; the next year, after a very wet summer, they had a frost which lasted from December to the March following; this brought on a famine, which left them but at this king's death in 1154.

An. Dom. 1155.

Wheat sold for £.0 3 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ per quarter, oats for £.0 1 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ per quarter.

King Henry II. to forward every relief in his power, repaired the coin, and ordered that his money only should be current in the kingdom; peace followed his steps.

An. Dom. 1160.

Wheat was at £.0 3 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ per quarter, oats at £.0 1 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ per quarter.

An. Dom. 1164.

Wheat was at £.0 5 6 per quarter, the carcase of a fat ox sold for £.0 3 1 $\frac{1}{2}$, a fat sheep for £.0 1 0 $\frac{1}{2}$.

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An. Dom. 1177.

Wheat sold for £. 0 5 3 per quarter, a fat ox for £. 0 3 4, a fat sheep for £. 0 1 0 $\frac{1}{2}$.

In the year 1180, the king again called in the debased coin.

An. Dom. 1185.

The price of a hen was £. 0 0 3, of a ram £. 0 2 2.

A new crusade was published in 1188; a tax of one tenth on all the moveable goods was imposed; superstition occasioned the first tax of this sort in England.

The year 1189 was the first of king Richard's reign; he admitted of scutages and knight's fees in lieu of personal services; he remitted the dane-gelt; but after bleeding the country of men and money, he set out for the Holy-land: probably this diminution of people raised the price of labour, for

An. Dom. 1191,

Labourers wages at Croyland was £. 0 0 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per day.

The personal glory the king had atcheived in the Holy-land he personally suffered for; the emperor of Germany treacherously detained him prisoner, and in 1193 England paid £. 206666 12 8 in part of his ransom; his necessities were such, he resumed the grants formerly made by the crown; he laid a tax of £. 0 15 6 on every hyde of land; his reign was closed by four years famine: in this melancholy season, he made a law, enacting, that there should be but one weight and one measure throughout the kingdom, which his successor king John weakly dispensed with.

An. Dom. 1196.

Wheat £. 2 2 9 per quarter, one hundred acres of land were now let for £. 3 2 0, an ox sold for £. 0 12 5, a labouring horse for £. 0 12 5, a sow for £. 0 3 0, a sheep with fine wool for £. 0 2 7, a sheep with coarse wool for £. 0 1 6 $\frac{1}{2}$.

An. Dom. 1197.

Wheat £. 2 18 6 per quarter.

Mean Price of the Necessaries of Life from the Year 1066, to the first Year of the Reign of King JOHN 1199.

Purchase of land	Rent of land per acre	Interest of money	Wheat per quarter	Malt per quarter	Sea coals per chaldron	Hay per load.
	£. 0 1 0 $\frac{3}{4}$		Probably £. 0 3 1			
Price of cattle	Price of fowls	Butchers meat per stone	Ale and beer	Linen and woollen cloths	Butter and cheese	Wages and labour
A horse £0, 12, 5 An ox - 0, 4, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ A calf - 0, 2, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ A sheep 0, 1, 8 A sow - 0, 3, 0 A ram - 0, 1, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ A colt - 0, 2, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	A hen £0, 0, 3					Labour per day £. 0 0 4

SECTION III.

WE have before taken notice, that in the first ages of the British empire, the beer brewed was principally for the use of the gentry; that this liquor had the preference of wine seems to be farther confirmed, by its being employed to administer the sacrament with: (it could not be on account of the dearth of wine, for in the year 1199, the first of king John, red wine sold for £. 0. 1. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$. per gallon, and white wine for £. 0. 2. 0 $\frac{3}{4}$. per gallon): however, in the following year, the council of Winchester abolished this custom. A famine was occasioned by the great rains which happened

An. Dom. 1202.

Wheat sold for £. 1. 17. 2. per quarter.

From the king's ill conduct, his sloth, and supineness, from the current coin being debased, from the inclemency of the weather, and the many insurrections on account of the high price of corn, we may conclude the scarcity was of some years continuance.

An. Dom. 1205.

Wheat was at £. 1. 17. 2. per quarter, oats £. 0. 10. 4. per quarter, pease and beans £. 1. 0. 8. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1206.

Wheat was at £. 2. 1. 4. per quarter, oats £. 0. 10. 4. per quarter.

It is true, during the greatest part of this time, the land lay under the pope's interdict; but it is as true, when bribed by the surrender of the crown, and the payment of a tribute, this pious priest permitted the people to do homage to the deity, and gave them his blessing, this did not produce the plenty they stood in immediate want of, a blessing they most sensibly would have acknowledged; nor did it prevent in the year 1215 a general devastation of all the lands and parks in England, occasioned by a civil war, this holy father in a great measure was the author of; ignorance had benighted all the christian powers, from the conquest to this time, trade and agriculture were at the lowest ebb, the clergy and the monks were almost the only persons that could or did write; the pope's ambition and ill-humour, they termed religion, and this wholly engrossed their attentions; as all else appeared to them to be of little moment, it is no wonder they left few or no records relative to the concerns of life.

Matthew Paris takes notice the first use of sea-coals was in the first year of king Henry III.

An. Dom. 1217.

Ale was ordered to be sold in cities two gallons for three pence, and three or four gallons in the country for the same price; at the same time three good horses, two asses, and a good cart were valued at £. 7. 15. 0.

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This distinction of price between the cities and the country shews the want of good roads, and the little communication there was between the parts of the kingdom: great storms with thunder and lightning throughout England, attended with immense floods, which began in May, occasioned,

An. Dom. 1222,

Wheat to sell for £. 1. 17. 2½. per quarter. It is remarked at this time that a single priest was supposed to be able to subsist with £. 10. 6. 8. per annum; but he could not afford to keep a curate.

An. Dom. 1223.

Wheat still at £. 1. 17. 2½. per quarter.

The unseasonable weather lasted to Candlemas of this year, and corn was esteemed excessive dear.

An. Dom. 1225.

The hire of a cart with two horses was £. 0. 2. 7. per day, with three horses £. 0. 3. 7½. per day.

An. Dom. 1232.

A strong handsome horse worth £. 1. 11. 0.

A great frost which, began at Christmas and lasted to Candlemas without snow, rendered the ground unfit to be tilled; a famine ensued.

An. Dom. 1234.

Wheat sold for £. 1. 17. 2½. per quarter.

It must have continued dear, for it is recorded the following year, the people eat horse-flesh, the bark of trees, and stole the green corn in the fields for food; twenty thousand are said to have been famished in the city of London; likely such unwholesome nourishment brought on epidemical distempers among them: the interest of money was £. 40 per cent. We hear of no abatement of this misery until

An. Dom. 1237;

Wheat then sold for £. 0. 10. 4. per quarter, barley for £. 0. 6. 2½. per quarter, and oats £. 0. 3. 1½.

The pope having extorted great sums of money from the English clergy; it is probable as the coin of the kingdom became scarce, the price of provisions could not rise.

An. Dom. 1240.

Wheat at £. 0. 10. 4. per quarter.

Fresh extortions were made by the pope; and though the king exported 100,000 quarters of wheat, and 5000 quarters of oats for the use of his army in France, so favourable was the harvest, that

An. Dom. 1243,

Wheat was £. 0. 6. 2½. per quarter, pease £. 0. 6. 2½. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1244.

Wheat was £. 0. 6. 2½. per quarter, pease £. 0. 6. 2½. per quarter.

Trade in some measure must have increased, the king's customs for the use of his ware-houses, his measures and weights amounted to £. 18600 per annum; the benefit arising from this was over-

over-balanced by the current coin being egregiously clipped, so that without any other reason assigned we find wheat at prices consequent of a famine.

An. Dom. 1246.

Wheat at £. 2. 9. 7. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1247.

Wheat sold £. 2. 1. 4. per quarter.

So great variation in price, within so short time, in the same kingdom, indicates bad husbandry, and a want of proper conveyances both by land and by water; the scarcity or the dearth of provisions, drew the attention of the legislative power. In 1251 the king fixed the assize for bread, in proportion to the price of corn, from £. 0. 3. 1. to £. 1. 3. 3. per quarter; the first precedent of this sort was in the reign of king John, but then the sheriff shared part of the assize, and the price of grain was lower. In the year 1255 the extortions of the pope, and the sums obtained by the earl of Cornwall raised the interest of money to £. 50 per cent. it was computed they took out of the kingdom £. 2,170,000 in real species, for paper coin was then unknown, this occasioned a general decay of trade: from excessive rains a great famine ensued, dead dogs, and the bark of trees became the usual food of the people, and brought a great mortality among men.

An. Dom. 1257.

Wheat was £. 3. 14. 5. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1258.

Wheat £. 2. 9. 7. per quarter.

Though civil wars afflicted the people in 1263, and four years despoiled the country, yet when peace returned

An. Dom. 1266.

Wheat sold for £. 0. 3. 1. per quarter.

If the following facts were not related by Stow, Maitland and historians of equal veracity, we might be taxed with credulity to notice them; a great frost set in November 1269, and lasted to the February following; this was succeeded by excessive rains, and the scarcity of corn and provisions was so great, the poor are said to have fed upon their own children: nature recoils in reading records of this sort, for two years so near together, and to see in the midst of these distresses the nobility and barons ravaging each other's lands, thereby adding to the misery of the people.

An. Dom. 1270.

Wheat sold for £. 14. 17. 6. and rose to £. 19. 16. 9. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1272.

Wheat at £. 14. 17. 6. per quarter.

From these necessities, robberies became frequent, nor could they be resisted or provided against, as they were mostly committed by the Great: laws were enacted against engrossers and forestallers, the common-council of the city of London made regulations and appointments for markets, and the king capitally punished 280 Jews for clipping the current coin of the kingdom.

dom. It was impossible the nation could subsist long, under such redoubled calamities; the long peace that followed administered relief, but by great storms of thunder, lightning and rain,

An. Dom. 1286.

Wheat from £.0. 9. 0. per quarter rose to £.2. 9. 7. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1287.

Wheat £.0. 10. 5. per quarter.

The synod of Exeter decreed every parochial church, and perpetual vicarages should be endowed with £.10. 6. 8. per ann. and that rectors shall give their curates £.6. 4. 0. per annum; the next summer was remarkably hot, and great complaints were made of scarcity of money.

An. Dom. 1288.

Wheat from £.0. 2. 9½. per quarter, rose to £.0. 4. 6½. then to £.0. 10. 3¾. per quarter, barley sold for £.0. 1. 6. per quarter, oats for £.0. 1. 0. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1289.

Wheat sold for £.0. 18. 6. per quarter, barley £.0. 9. 3. per quarter, rye £.0. 15. 6. per quarter, pease £.0. 9. 0. per quarter, and beans £.0. 9. 0. per quarter, the price of a swan was £.0. 10. 3¾. and of a duck £.0. 0. 3.

This rise of provisions was occasioned by great rains; both this and the year following; the inconveniency thereof must have been felt, for the bishop of Chichester now decreed the stipend of curates in poor churches should be £.10. 6. 8. per annum, and in rich ones more.

An. Dom. 1290.

Wheat £.2. 9. 7. per quarter.

And probably this scarcity continued; for king Edward I. after seizing the priories alien, allowed every monk £.12. 1. 9. per annum.

An. Dom. 1294.

Wheat £.2. 9. 7. per quarter.

In 1297 the king seized 2000 quarters of wheat, and 2000 quarters of oats, out of every shire in England, for the use of his army going abroad; the next year is noted for a famine.

An. Dom. 1298.

Of corn I find no prices; an ox sold for £.1. 0. 7. a cow £.0. 15. 6. a heifer £.0. 2. 1½. a sheep £.0. 0. 3. in Yorkshire; and so great a scarcity was there of wine, that with difficulty enough was found for administering the sacrament; perhaps the war on the continent prevented the importation of it.

An. Dom. 1299.

In London, a goose sold for £.0. 1. 0½. a capon for £.0. 0. 7½. a fat cock for £.0. 0. 4¾. a partridge £.0. 0. 4¾. and a lamb for £.0. 4. 0.

Much base money was current; trade was in great decay; the king ordered new monies to be coined, and half-pence of silver.

An. Dom. 1301.

Wheat £.0. 6. 1½. per quarter, a hen sold for £.0. 0. 1½.

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An. Dom. 1302.

Wheat £. 0. 12. 3. per quarter, malt £. 0. 9. 2½. per quarter, oats £. 0. 6. 1½. per quarter, pease £. 0. 7. 5. per quarter; the price of a bull was £. 1. 2. 1. a cow £. 0. 18. 7. a fat sheep £. 0. 3. 0. a capon £. 0. 0. 6. a hen £. 0. 0. 4½.

The want of wine no doubt occasioned more ale to be brewed, for in the year 1306, a complaint was made, the brewers, dyers, &c. in London, used sea-coals in their manufactures, and infected the air; upon which the use of them was prohibited.

Mean Price of the Necessaries of Life from the Year 1199 to the first Year of the Reign of King EDWARD II. A. D. 1307.

Purchase of land	Rent of land per acre	Interest of money	Wheat per quarter	Malt per quarter	Sea-coals per chaldron	Hay per load
.		£. 45 per Ct.	Recorded £. 01. 3. 2½.	£. 0. 9. 2½.		
Price of cattle	Price of fowls	Butchers meat	Ale and beer	Linen and woollen cloths	Butter and cheese	Wages and labour
A horse £1. 11. 0 An ox - 1. 0. 7 A cow 0. 17. 0½ A heifer 0. 2. 1 A sheep 0. 1. 7½ A lamb 0. 4. 0 A bull - 1. 2. 1	A duck £0. 0. 3 A goose 0. 1. 0 A capon 0. 0. 6½ Fat cock 0. 0. 4½ Partridge 0. 0. 4½ A hen - 0. 0. 3 A swan 0. 10. 3½		£. 0. 0. 1½. per gallon			A cart with 2 horses £0. 2. 7 per day A cart with 3 horses £0. 3. 7½ per day

SECTION IV.

THE peace which king Edward II. made with Scotland, was of no great advantage to his people, with regard to the price of provisions; he frequently suffered his northern borders to be invaded, and the harvests of these counties to be dispoiled and carried away.

An. Dom. 1307.

A fat cock sold for £. 0. 0. 4½. two pullets £. 0. 0. 4½.

An. Dom. 1309.

Wheat was £. 1. 1. 11. per quarter, malt £. 0. 18. 4. per quarter, oats £. 0. 12. 3. per quarter, a pair of shoes sold for £. 0. 1. 0½. wine £. 6. 14. 8. per ton, wax £. 0. 1. 8. per pound, almonds £. 0. 0. 4. per pound, ox carcases £. 2. 14. 0. each, a hog's carcase £. 0. 9. 8. a sheep £. 0. 9. 1. a goose £. 0. 0. 10½. a capon £. 0. 0. 9. a pullet £. 0. 0. 4½. a pig £. 0. 1. 6½. a swan £. 0. 17. 9. a rabbit £. 0. 1. 6½. eggs nine for £. 0. 0. 3.

Most of these prices were paid by Ralf de Born, for a feast he gave at his installation, as prior of St. Augustine, Canterbury; Bishop Fleetwood observes he paid at a high rate for many articles.

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An. Dom. 1310.

A man at arms was allowed £. 0. 2. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$. per day, a cross-bow-man £. 0. 0. 9 $\frac{1}{4}$. per day, an archer £. 0. 0. 6. per day; the king paid for a cross-bow £. 0. 11. 3.

In this age we frequently find the price of malt to be very high; the reason is, they malted wheat as well as barley, and both passed under the same denomination; this fixed the attention of the legislature mostly to wheat: in 1311 the lord-mayor of London ordered an assay to be made of bread.

An. Dom. 1314.

Wheat sold for £. 3. 1. 2. per quarter, malt £. 2. 0. 9. per quarter, oats £. 2. 0. 9. per quarter, beans £. 3. 1. 2. per quarter, pease £. 3. 1. 2. per quarter, a corn-fed ox sold for £. 3. 13. 6. a grass-fed ox for £. 2. 9. 0. a cow for £. 1. 13. 8. a fat sheep shorn £. 0. 3. 7. a goose £. 0. 0. 9 $\frac{1}{4}$. the common people could not find themselves in necessities.

An. Dom. 1315.

Wheat was £. 3. 1. 2. per quarter; from a mortality among the cattle, an ox was in price £. 7. 6. 9.

An. Dom. 1316.

Wheat from £. 3. 1. 2. rose to £. 4. 18. 0. per quarter, malt sold for £. 2. 0. 9. per quarter, oats at £. 0. 10. 6. per quarter, beans £. 4. 0. 0. per quarter, pease £. 4. 0. 0. per quarter, small ale was £. 0. 0. 3. per gallon, strong ale £. 0. 1. 0 $\frac{1}{4}$. per gallon; a foot soldier's pay £. 0. 1. 0 $\frac{1}{4}$. per day.

An. Dom. 1317.

Wheat from £. 6. 14. 7. fell in price to £. 1. 0. 5. per quarter, oats sold for £. 0. 16. 4. per quarter.

These famines so oppressed the poor, they were drove to eat the flesh of horses and of dogs, a great mortality prevailed among mankind, and a murrain among the cattle; the only relief mentioned is, wheat was ordered not to be malted; nor is any other cause given for this continued scarcity, than that the northern counties were ravaged by the Scotch, and that in 1316 great rains fell in harvest-time; the early and plentiful crop of the following year, was a blessing they long had stood in need of. The bad managements of this reign bore down almost all that could be beneficial to the subject, few or no manufactures remained, and what were left were in great decay; at times bread scarcely could be got for the king's household; forestallers were sometimes punished, but the evil remained; the civil wars had brought husbandry so very low, that now few lands were inclosed except for deer.

An. Dom. 1325.

Wheat from £. 6. 2. 4. fell to £. 0. 6. 1. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1326.

Wheat sold at £. 0. 10. 2. per quarter, arable land let for £. 0. 0. 9. per acre, pasture land £. 0. 0. 3. per acre, meadow land £. 0. 1. 1. per acre, land in Kent at £. 0. 1. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$. per acre, the price of a cock £. 0. 0. 3. of a hen £. 0. 0. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$.

However matters must have mended, for in the year 1329 the importation of corn was prohibited, unless the price of wheat

exceeded £.o. 19. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$. per quarter, at the port where the same should be brought in; the following summer was so wet, the corn could not ripen, but of prices I find no account until

An. Dom. 1336,

Wheat £.o. 6. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. per quarter, an ox sold for £.1. o. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$. a sheep £.o. 2. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$. a pig £.o. o. 3. a pidgeon £.o. o. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$. a fat goose £.o. o. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$. a labourer's hire was £.o. o. 3. per day.

The complaint of a scarcity of money was so great, that the king was allowed to export 20,000 sacks of wool to Flanders, the value of which was £.918,000; yet this year it was made felony to export wool; for in 1331, the art of weaving woollen cloth was brought from Flanders into England, by John Kempe; the King granted to him his protection, and invited over Fullers, Dyers, &c.

An. Dom. 1338.

Wheat which was at £.o. 6. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. per quarter rose to £.o. 10. 2 $\frac{1}{4}$. per quarter, barley was £.o. 2. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$. per quarter, oats £.o. 2. 6 $\frac{1}{4}$. pease £.o. 3. 0 $\frac{3}{4}$. and beans £.o. 3. 0 $\frac{3}{4}$.

An. Dom. 1339.

Wheat was £.1. 7. 6. per quarter, malt £.1. 7. 6. per quarter.

Beside the high prices now paid for provisions, the people were vexed by a tax, of one ninth of every sheep and lamb's fleece, and of all the real value of their moveables, for two years.

An. Dom. 1343.

The price of an ox £.1. 4. 6. a cow £.o. 15. 4.

An. Dom. 1348.

A stone of wool £.o. 2. 0 $\frac{3}{4}$. a horse £.o. 18. 4. a fat ox £.o. 10. o. a cow £.o. 2. 9. a heifer £.o. 1. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$. a fat sheep £.o. o. 11. an ewe £.o. o. 8 $\frac{1}{4}$. a lamb £.o. o. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$. a hog £.o. 1. 1 $\frac{1}{4}$.

An. Dom. 1349.

Wheat £.o. 5. 6. per quarter, an ox £.o. 18. 4.

These prices are remarkably low, and were occasioned by a most dreadful pestilence, which swept away near one third part of all the people of Europe; this calamity extended among the cattle, and the lives of men and beasts became so precarious, that to realize what value they had, they exchanged their goods for a very small quantity of money.

An. Dom. 1351.

Wheat £.o. 18. 4. per quarter.

The wages of a common labourer £.o. o. 2 $\frac{3}{4}$. per day, mowing grass £.o. 1. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$. per acre, reapers were paid £.o. o. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$. threshers of wheat £.o. o. 7. per day, a master carpenter, a master mason, and a master tyler had £.o. o. 8 $\frac{1}{4}$. each per day, other carpenters, masons and tylers £.o. o. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$. per day each, and their boys £.o. o. 4. per day.

In 1354 England suffered much by a great drought, which lasted from March to the end of July; this and the following year there was a great scarcity, but the people were assisted by an importation of corn from Ireland. As far as the year 1361, was one continued scene of war, famine and pestilence. The sensation of these miseries are in some degree alleviated by the invitation
and

and encouragement king Edward III. gave to the Flemings to settle and establish the manufacture of woollen cloths in England, and the great success it has been attended with, ought to be an incitement to exert all our industry to preserve it.

An. Dom. 1359.

Wheat £. 3. 4. 1½. per quarter, master carpenters £. 0. 0. 10. per day, other carpenters £. 0. 0. 7½. per day, their servants £. 0. 0. 5. per day.

An. Dom. 1361.

Wheat £. 0. 5. 0. per quarter, the price of a hen £. 0. 0. 1½.

Why the wages of artificers were raised, and the stipends of chaplains reduced, is not easy to be accounted for; at this time the archbishop of Canterbury ordered chaplains to be content with £. 8. 5. 2. per annum; but this allowance was so small, that it occasioned many of them to turn robbers: the history of England furnishes frequent occasions to observe, *necessity knows no law*.

An. Dom. 1363.

Wheat £. 1. 17. 2½. per quarter, the price of a hen £. 0. 0. 2½. of a hog £. 0. 3. 9.

An. Dom. 1369.

Wheat £. 2. 9. 7. per quarter, barley £. 1. 19. 8. oats £. 1. 0. 0.

An. Dom. 1370.

Wheat £. 3. 4. 1½. per quarter.

These prices denote the degree of dearth; great as this was, it became more grievous by the pestilence which accompanied it; the consequence of most famines is an epidemical distemper; bad nourishment, and a scarcity of it, may likely be the cause. Granting of leases was now first practised, as a means to populate the land.

An. Dom. 1376.

Twenty-six stone of wool sold for £. 12. 8. 0.

Commerce, says a noted historian, for 50 years past, was at a very low ebb, from the badness of internal polity, nor arts, nor manufactures flourished in any part of the kingdom; unwrought wool, hides, tin, &c. were the only exports; the land, nor the rents thereof; could not rise in value, where neither industry nor plenty existed to retain and attract a numerous people to support such advance.

An. Dom. 1379.

Wheat at £. 0. 9. 0. per quarter, white wine £. 0. 1. 3. per gallon, red wine £. 0. 0. 10. per gallon.

An. Dom. 1380.

Wheat £. 0. 17. 9. per quarter, malt £. 0. 14. 10. per quarter, oats £. 0. 10. 0. per quarter, sheep sold for £. 0. 3. 9 each.

An. Dom. 1382.

Wheat £. 0. 5. 0. per quarter, barley £. 0. 2. 6. per quarter, a ton of wine sold for £. 9. 18. 6.

An. Dom. 1387.

Wheat from £. 0. 2. 6. rose to £. 0. 5. 0. per quarter, barley was £. 0. 2. 6. pease £. 0. 2. 6. per quarter.

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An. Dom. 1390.

Wheat £.1. 16. 4½. per quarter, the wages of a common labourer was £.0. 0. 8½. per day.

England was visited with a plague; but we find no reason assigned for this famine, except that in March 1389 it was uncommonly windy, and this alone is not sufficient to account for the short ensuing crop. The exportation of unwrought wool was at this time stopt; it fell in price from £.0. 7 5. per stone to £.0. 4. 2. per stone; the sharing with foreigners the materials of trade, or unseasonably (by the exportation of provisions) supporting them in their manufactures, are means to keep the staple commodities of a kingdom above their natural prices; but at the same time, as this is furnishing employment to the subjects of other nations, they are the certain means to destroy home-manufactures, for when the industry of a people is added to staple commodities, they must become of greater value, and be in greater demand from abroad, consequently their consumption more advantageously extended: it is true, this is a slow method to improve the value of land, and its produce; but it is a sure and lasting one.

An. Dom. 1391.

Wheat £.2. 1. 4. per quarter.

A dearth so great, that this and the following year many people died of dysenteries; they were compelled to eat nuts, apples and every species of fruit as soon as they appeared. It is recorded, to the honour of Adam Beaume, then lord-mayor of London, that he imported corn to the relief of the whole realm, and jointly with his fellow-citizens took out of the orphan's chest £.3307, to which the aldermen added a contribution of £.49. 10. 0. each; these beneficences to be applied towards assisting of the needy.

An. Dom. 1401.

Wheat at £.1. 19. 8. per quarter.

This was accounted very dear, but no other cause assigned than two insurrections, one in England and the other in Wales, the first was short, the other of a longer duration.

An. Dom. 1407.

Wheat sold for £.0. 8. 3. per quarter, oats £.0. 5. 0. per quarter.

Wales and the northern counties, which again had rose, were now reduced to obedience; the winter following was so hard, that most of the small birds perished; the stipend of a mass-priest was now raised to £.11. 11. 6. the base money imported from Genoa was prohibited, and in 1411 new money was coined.

An. Dom. 1411.

The wages of a common labourer £0. 0. 5. per day; the price of a cow £.0. 17. 4. a calf £.0.2. .4. salt £.0. 1. 7. per bushel, an ox £.1. 6. 2. a new plough £.0. 2. 1. a pair of new cart wheels £.0. 7. 10.

Lands in the hands of societies are generally let at easier rents, than when belonging to private men, one third part of the lands of England, were now thought to appertain to the church, amounting to £.627,266. 13. 4. per annum. The parliament,
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always attentive to publick welfare, in the year 1413, enacted, That their members representing burrough towns, should not only be inhabitants of such burroughs, but likewise be burgessees, free of their corporations.

An. Dom. 1416.

Wheat £. 1. 11. 0. per quarter.

The price of corn at this time was thought to be very high, it might be owing in a great measure to the great quantity of base coin now current, however it was prohibited and new money made; it is worthy of observation, some of the new pieces were struck with this inscription, HENRICUS V. REX ANGLIÆ, REGENS ET HÆRES FRANCIÆ, these were called Blanches.

Mean Price of the Necessaries of Life from the Year 1307 to the Declaration of War with FRANCE by K. HENRY V. A. D. 1418.

Purchase of land	Rent of land per acre	Interest of money	Wheat per quarter	Malt per quarter	Sea-coals per chaldron	Hay per load
	Arable £0 1. 11. Meadow £0 0. 11. 1.		Conjectured £0 15. 0.	£0. 9. 6.		
Price of cattle	Price of fowls	Butchers meat	Ale and beer per gallon	Linen and woollen cloths	Butter and cheese per pound	Wages and labour per day
A horse £0. 18. 4 An ox - 2. 6. 1 A cow 0. 7. 2 A heifer 0. 1. 4. 1 A sheep 0. 2. 7 A calf - 0. 4. 2	A goose £0. 0. 9 A capon 0. 0. 9 Fat cock 0. 0. 3 A hen - 0. 0. 2. 3 A puller 0. 0. 2. 1 A tward 0. 17. 9	Ox's carcase £. 2. 14. 0. Sheep ditto £. 0. 9. 1. Hog dit. 0. 4. 10 Pig ditto 0. 0. 8	£. 0. 0. 7. 3			Carpenters, masons and tylers £. 0. 0. 9. 1. A man at arms £. 0. 2. 6. Cross-bowman £. 0. 0. 0. 1. Archer £. 0. 0. 6 Labourer 0. 4. 1

SECTION V.

AFTER these times of calamity the legislature devised measures to prevent the like for the future; in 1419 Sir Simon Eyre built Leaden-hall, to be employed as a publick grainary for laying corn in, against times of scarcity. King Henry V. endeavoured his utmost to disburden his English subjects: for his wars in France, he made his conquests furnish recruits and money to support his army.

An. Dom. 1416.

Wheat £. 1. 11. 0. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1423.

Wheat £. 0. 13. 2. 1. per quarter, malt £. 0. 8. 3. per quarter, a ram sold for £. 0. 1. 1. 1.

Bishop Fleetwood observes, wheat at this price was not cheap, but only in comparison to some of the foregoing years; the blanches were now prohibited because not sterling, so there was a scarcity of silver coin.

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An. Dom. 1425.

Wheat sold for £.0. 6. 7. per quarter, pease £.0. 3. 6. per quarter, a colt was in value £.0. 13. 3. ale £.0. 0. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$. per gallon, common labour from £.0. 0. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$. to £.0. 0. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. per day, mechanic's labour £.0. 0. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$. per day, a tod of pure wool £.0. 15. 8. cloth for napkins £.0. 1. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$. per ell, best ale £.0. 0. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. per gallon, red wine £.0. 1. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. per gallon, sweet wine £.0. 2. 3. per gallon, pullets £.0. 0. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. each, russet cloth £.0. 1. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$. per yard, a bay horse for the prior of Burcheſter, Oxf. coſt £.2. 4. 0. an act paſſed prohibiting the exportation of ſheep or fleeces.

An. Dom. 1426.

The following appraiſement was made at this time, an ox £.0. 6. 10. a cow £.0. 15. 6. a horſe £.0. 2. 1. red herrings £.0. 2. 4. per hundred.

An act now paſſed to encourage agriculture, but the year following it rained from April to November, the effects of which I have not been able to diſcover. In the year 1430, it was enacted, that every elector of members to ſerve in parliament ſhall poſſeſs a freehold of 40 ſhillings per annum, clear of all reſiſals, which 40 ſhillings is at preſent equal to £.4. 2. 5. Perhaps this quotation is not abſolutely foreign to the purpoſe of this treatiſe.

An. Dom. 1434.

Wheat £.2. 14. 11. per quarter,

From an exceſſive wet autumn: and though there was a hard froſt from November to February, yet, the year following,

An. Dom. 1435,

Wheat ſold for £.0. 11. 3. per quarter;

And this is obſerved to have been the uſual price about this time. Meer neceſſity, the year following, brought on a ſuſpenſion of arms between the Engliſh and French, neither ſide could bring any force into the field; both kingdoms groaned under a general want of induſtry, commerce, police, and a ſcarcity of coin.

An. Dom. 1438.

Wheat £.2. 1. 2. per quarter.

This ſcarcity was brought on by unmeaſurable winds and rains.

An. Dom. 1439.

Wheat £.2. 14. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$. per quarter, malt £.1. 6. 9. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1440.

Wheat £.2. 9. 5. per quarter, malt £.1. 6. 9. per quarter, oats £.0. 11. 3. per quarter, wine £.0. 2. 0 $\frac{3}{4}$. per gallon, bayſalt £.0. 2. 0 $\frac{3}{4}$. per buſhel.

Hiſtorians charge this exceſs of price to the war, which they obſerve cuts down corn as well as men: this calamity cauſed vicarages to be augmented to £.16. 9. 7. per annum; bread was made of fern roots, and the government to afford the people all the aſſiſtance in their power, gave liberty to carry corn from one county to another. It is agreeable to tranſmit to poſterity, the names of thoſe who aſſiſted their diſtreſſed country; Stephen Brown then lord-mayor of the city of London, cauſed much rye to be imported from Pruſſia, and with his fellow-citizens petitioned

petitioned the king for an aid to repair their common grainary; this is a sure indication of the benefits they experienced by storing provisions in times of plenty.

An. Dom. 1444.

Wheat £.0. 9. 0. per quarter, malt £.0. 8. 3. per quarter, oats £.0. 3. 6. per quarter, pease £.0. 6. 2. per quarter, an ox £.3. 4. 9. a porker £.0. 6. 2. a calf £.0. 4. 1. artificers wages £.0. 0. 6 $\frac{1}{4}$. per day, a common labourer £.0. 0. 2. per day, yearly wages of servants £.2. 1. 3. a goose £.0. 0. 6 $\frac{1}{4}$. pigeons £.0. 0. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$. per dozen, a cignet £.0. 6. 3. fine cloth for napkins used at the altar £.0. 1. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$. per ell, thirty gallons of red herrings £.2. 1. 3.

An. Dom. 1445.

Wheat £.0. 9. 3. per quarter, oats £.0. 4. 1. per quarter, hay £.0. 7. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$. per load, ale £.0. 0. 3. per gallon, red herrings £.1. 1. 0. per thousand.

An. Dom. 1446.

Arable land let from £.0. 0. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$. to £.0. 0. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$. per acre, meadow land £.0. 1. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$. per acre, the wages of a baily for husbandry £.2. 7. 0. per annum, with diet and clothes, a chief carter and a chief shepherd £.2. 0. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. per annum, with diet and clothes to each, a common husbandry servant £.1. 11. 0. per year, a woman servant £.1. 0. 7. per year.

An. Dom. 1447.

Wheat £.0. 16. 6. per quarter, oats £.0. 4. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1448.

Wheat £.0. 13. 0. per quarter, oats £.0. 4. 1. per quarter, red herrings £.0. 2. 4. per hundred, white herrings £.0. 19. 0. per barrel, a sheep £.0. 5. 0. a hog £.0. 3. 11 $\frac{3}{4}$.

An. Dom. 1449.

Wheat £.0. 10. 3. per quarter, red herrings 500 for £.0. 12. 4. a barrel or 30 gallons of white herrings fully packed £.1. 1. 1.

An. Dom. 1450.

Oats £.0. 3. 9. per quarter, beans £.0. 5. 3. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1451.

Wheat £.0. 16. 6. per quarter, oats £.1. 2. 4. per quarter, beans £.0. 6. 10. per quarter, ale £.0. 0. 3. per gallon, red herrings £.0. 3. 2. per hundred, white herrings £.1. 8. 0. per barrel, fine woollen cloth £.0. 7. 5. per yard.

A grant was made to the Spinelloes merchants of Genoa for the sole trade of many staple commodities; and another to the merchants of Southampton, for the sole vending of alum: these were the first monopolies in England. The house of York in 1450 had asserted its right to the crown, and soon after opened a civil war, which could not be said to be extinguished before its interest and that of the house of Lancaster became united. The importance of the English woollen manufacture now dawned, amidst these troubles, the people began to see the error of exporting unwrought wool.

An. Dom. 1453.

Wheat £.o. 11. 1. per quarter, ale £.o. 0. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. per gallon, red herrings £.o. 3. 0. per hundred, white herrings £.o. 2. 6. per hundred.

An. Dom. 1454.

Wheat from £.o. 2. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$. per quarter, fell to £.o. 2. 0. per quarter, malt £.o. 2. 8. per quarter, oats £.o. 3. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1455.

Wheat £.o. 2. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$. per quarter, malt £.o. 2. 11.

An. Dom. 1457.

Wheat £.o. 15. 9. per quarter, oats £.o. 3. 0. per quarter, ale £.o. 0. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. per gallon, a cade or 500 red herrings £.o. 13. 9. white herrings 92 for £.o. 2. 0.

An. Dom. 1459.

Wheat £.o. 11. 9. per quarter, barley £.o. 6. 2. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1460.

Wheat £.o. 16. 6. per quarter, oats £.o. 4. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. per quarter, ale £.o. 0. 2. per gallon, a cade of red herrings £.o. 14. 6. white herrings 192 fold for £.o. 4. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$.

In 1461, an act passed allowing wheat to be exported, when in price less than £.o. 11. 0. per quarter, and barley when less than £.o. 5. 6. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1463.

Wheat from £.o. 3. 4. fell to £.o. 2. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$. per quarter, malt £.o. 2. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$. per quarter, barley £.o. 2. 3 $\frac{3}{4}$. per quarter, oats £.o. 1. 9. per quarter, pease £.o. 5. 6. per quarter.

The Importation of wheat was now forbid, unless when exceeding in price £.o. 11. 0. per quarter, rye £.o. 6. 7. per quarter, barley £.o. 5. 0. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1464.

Wheat £.o. 11. 0. per quarter.

These laws regulating the exportation and importation of corn, are sure guides to set the mean value for this period. King Edward IV. was undoubtedly a prince of uncommon abilities and resolution: notwithstanding the open contest for his crown, he called in the base money: from all these steps it is obvious, both agriculture and trade were objects of his care: his reign was dignified by the art of printing being introduced in England, by archbishop Bourchier; before this and until the art became more common, scarcely more than extraordinary events have been handed down to us, and these by monks often as credulous as ignorant of worldly transactions.

An. Dom. 1470.

Land sold at 10 years purchase.

In 1474, for a war with France, a land-tax was laid of £.o. 3. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$. in the pound, beside one fifteenth and three quarters of a fifteenth on moveables.

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An. Dom. 1475.

Oats £.0. 3. 2. per quarter, hay £.0. 11. 0. per load.

Historians take notice of a great famine in 1478, of another in 1480, of excessive rains in 1483; they remark a great inundation of the river Severn, which lasted ten days, and occasioned much damage; but the prices of corn and of provisions for any of these, I have not been able to procure: in 1485 began the sweating sickness, and at the same time Leaden-hall the city grainary was burnt.

An. Dom. 1486.

Wheat £.1. 19. 7. per quarter, salt £.0. 5. 0. per bushel.

These prices were so oppressive that an insurrection ensued, but was soon quelled.

An. Dom. 1487.

Wheat £.0. 5. 9. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1489.

Oats £.0. 3. 4. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1491.

Wheat £.1. 4. 2. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1492.

Wheat £.1. 2. 7. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1493.

Oats £.0. 3. 4. per quarter, beans £.0. 5. 6. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1494.

From £.0. 6. 7. per quarter, wheat rose to £.1. 4. 2. per quarter, white herrings were £.0. 5. 6. per barrel, bay-salt £.0. 0. 10. per bushel, it is observed the charge of keeping a horse, one year, for the use of the queen's sister was charged £.3. 15. 7.

An. Dom. 1495.

Wheat from £.0. 5. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$. rose to £.0. 6. 7. per quarter.

The years 1491, 1492, and 1494, were accounted years of dearth; manufactures beginning to improve, the barons grew jealous that cities and burroughs drained the country of labourers: they enacted a law prohibiting any one not possessed of £.1. 13. 0. per annum, from binding his sons apprentice to any trade. The king who foresaw that when encouragement was given to industry, not only the people, but the trade and value of lands must increase; to obtain these useful ends, he granted this privilege to all burroughs, that any villain who had lived one year in any corporation, and had been of the gild, should thenceforth be regarded as free: perhaps, both the jealousy of the barons, and the king's opinion, were then, and have since been extended beyond their true bounds. It must not here be omitted that 1492, America was discovered by Columbus, the quantities of gold and silver this continent furnished within a short time after, greatly influenced the landed and trading interests of Europe.

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An. Dom. 1497.

Wheat £.1 13. 0. per quarter, oats £.0. 3. 4. per quarter,
hay-makers wages £.0. 0. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$. per day.

An. Dom. 1498.

Wheat £.0. 5. 0. per quarter, hay £.0 13. 6. per load, though
Stow says, hay usually sold for £.0. 8. 3. per load.

An. Dom. 1499.

Wheat £.0. 6. 7. per quarter, bay-salt £.0. 3. 10. per bushel,
Gascoign wine £.3. 12. 0. per ton.

An. Dom. 1500.

Wheat £.0. 6. 7. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1504.

Wheat £.0. 8. 9. per quarter, ale at London £.0. 0. 5. per
gallon, wine £.0. 1. 4. per gallon.

An. Dom. 1505.

Oats £.0. 4. 0. per quarter, hay £.0. 9. 4. per load; about
this time the lowest price of hay was £.0. 7 9. per load, the
highest at £.0. 18. 7. per load.

An. Dom. 1506.

Oats £.0. 3. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. per quarter, beans £.0. 5. 7. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1507.

Oats £.0. 3. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. per quarter, beans £.0. 5. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$. per quarter,
mechanics wages £.0. 1. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$. per day, a hoghead of red wine
£.2. 7. 0.

An. Dom. 1508.

Oats £.0. 2. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$. per quarter, superfine scarlet cloth £.2. 0. 3.
per yard, superfine coloured cloth £.1. 7. 10. per yard.

King Henry VII. was too wise a prince to suffer the currency
of base money in his kingdom, while Spain was mistress of the
American mines, no part of which he knew could be obtained
for his people, by any means so advantageously, as by commerce:
to render the riches of Spain of less value, he enacted severe laws
against taking interest; though penurious himself, he lent his
own money to merchants without profit; he impowered his
barons, and the nobility to dispose of their estates; this di-
vided the property of the lands: the commons enriched by traf-
fick, sharing these, pointed out to the gentry the effect and power
of manufactures and trade.

Before the discovery of America, the price of labour and pro-
visions were but low, and it appears the profits of trade were so
excessive as cent. per cent. but this error which confined the
bounds of commerce, began to be corrected by the desire to
share the American gold and silver, which now had reached
Europe. The Spaniards, the first possessors, grew more delicate
and sumptuous in their manner of living, and in their dress;
this spirit dispersed itself into most parts of Europe; there was a
greater demand for every kind of merchandize; industry with less
profit was equally rewarded by the increase of consumption;
every manufacturing country divided the riches of the Indies;
England had her share; but this sudden plenty of money en-
hanced

hanced the price of labour and provisions; the value of estates increased, and the land-owner was in the end the most advantaged: such were with us the first effects of Peruvian riches: these mines now are far from being exhausted; the only means to counteract their power, is by trade to divide it; such kingdoms must obtain the largest share thereof, whose people are enabled to manufacture goods the best in quality and at the cheapest rates.

An. Dom. 1510.

Oats £.0. 2. 9. per quarter, Hay £.0. 12. 4. per load.

An. Dom. 1511.

Oats £.0. 2. 9. per quarter, beans £.0. 4. 6. per quarter, hay £.0. 6. 10. per load.

An. Dom. 1512.

Oats £.0. 2. 9. per quarter, beans £.0. 5. 6. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1513.

Oats £.0. 3. 2½. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1514.

Wheat £.0. 5. 6. per quarter; master-masons, carpenters, rough-masons, bricklayers, tylers, plumbers, glaziers, carvers, and joiners, their wages without diet £.0. 0. 8½. per day each, common labourers £.0. 0. 5½. per day.

An. Dom. 1515.

Beans £.0. 5. 9. per quarter.

During the first years of the reign of king Henry VIII. the prices of grain were at a low rate; yet so far were the magistrates at this time from thinking that laying up provisions against a scarcity was an expensive or hazardous measure, or that corn was best left in the hands of farmers or ingrossers, whose constant interest it is, to advance the price of them, that we find in the year 1510, Roger Achiley, then lord-mayor of London, caused Leaden-hall, the city-grainary, to be plentifully stored with all sort of grain; and in 1516, by order of his majesty's council, an assay of bread was made, from one quarter of wheat; such attention for the welfare of the laborious poor, must endear the sovereign to his people.

An. Dom. 1519.

Wheat £.0. 5. 6. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1521.

Wheat from £.1. 7. 7. rose to £.1. 15. 10. per quarter.

The sweating sickness, which shewed itself in 1518, carried off great part of the inhabitants; the dearth, war, and pestilence, which took place from 1521, and lasted the three following years, without being attended with the terrible consequences historians of the times preceding this have recorded of theirs, shew the wisdom of internal polity at this time.

Mean Price of the Necessaries of Life from the Year 1418 to the Introduction of Hops into ENGLAND A. D. 1524.

Purchase of land	Rent of land per acre	Interest of money	Wheat per quarter	Malt per quarter	Sea-coals per chaldron	Hay per load
10 years rent	Arable £0.0.6½ Meadow £0.1.2½.		Recorded £.0 11. 3.	£.0. 8. 0.		£.0. 9. 9½.
Price of cattle	Price of fowls	Butchers meat	Ale and beer per gallon	Linen and woollen cloths per yard	Butter and cheese per pound	Wages and labour per day
A colt £0.7.8. An ox 1.15.8½ A cow 0.15.6 A sheep 0.5.0 A calf - 0.4.1 A hog - 0.5.0½ A genteel horse £.2.4.0	Agoose £0.0.6½ A pullet 0.0.2½ A cignet 0.6.3		£. 0. 0. 2¾.	Fine linen £.0.1.9. Russet £.0.1.9. Woollen cloth £.0 7. 5. Fine scarlet cloth £.2.0.3. Fine coloured cloth £.1 7 10		Artificers £.0. 0. 8½. Labourers £.0.0.3½.

S E C T I O N VI.

THE price of wine at this time was about four times more than that of ale; as the profits of trade lessened, and the value of provisions and labour increased, it is probable, by a prudent change to a less expensive diet, the people sought to keep their expences within bounds; this introduced the more frequent use of malt-liquors: the intercourse trade had opened between this kingdom and Flanders, undoubtedly brought the English to be acquainted with many of their customs and of their manner of living. The ales then brewed in England were fit only for present use, they had not in them a property to keep, so as to be amended by time; the Flemings by adding hops to their beers had procured this advantage: neither the plant, its use or the benefit it conveyed could be unknown, it remained only to try their growth in British soil; the experiment was made, and met with uncommon success in the first year of this period 1524, and thereby laid the foundation to change the very nature of the malt-liquors then in use, to render them more wholesome, increase the consumption of barley, and brought into the country a material of trade, which since has furnished to the government many large sums towards defraying the expences of the state: this and the two following years produced much rain.

An. Dom. 1526.

Oats £.0. 5. 0. per quarter, beans £.0. 5. 9. per quarter; much corn was imported from Dantzic.

An. Dom. 1527.

Wheat £.0. 19. 9. per quarter; grain again was imported from Dantzic.

Many people in London died for want; the king sent a present of one thousand quarters of corn to the city; a fact, which with what was imported warrants the truth of this scarcity, although from the price it might not be judged of in so bad a light: every deviation from the weather naturally expected or wished for, seems

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in this and the preceding times to be productive of a scarcity to be complained of; the truth is, the cause in great measure lay elsewhere: the feudal system of government appears to be very ill calculated to promote industry and tillage: the chiefs and their vassals were military men, liable to attend wars on every occasion; the readiest gains best suited their genius and circumstances; they had little or no leisure, and less inclination to study profits, which time and peace were to bring about: such were the principles the English had imbibed from their ancestors, and these remained and operated even after the form of government had undergone some change; therefore they raised immense quantities of cattle, and neglected the plough, except so much as meer necessity compelled them to: for their unwrought wool, they found a sure sale with the Flemings, though the rivals of their trade, and of their clothing manufacture; and conscious of the small naval power they had to defend them; for these reasons, they placed their riches in flocks of sheep, which they could in times of danger remove to places of safety; whereas the produce of arable lands, from its nature, must be left to the violation of an enemy, whether foreign or domestic. It requires a long time for a nation to depart from prejudices, and to change her customs; notwithstanding many laws enacting the contrary, at this time, we see the greatest part of the lands of England employed for pasture, and farmers keeping flocks of sheep to the amount of more than 24,000 each, and this for many years after the government had apprised them of their error. As the necessities of mankind are many, whenever an undue proportion exists in the means to supply these, some are in an over proportion, of others there is a want, and the effects of a real scarcity must often ensue: it belongs to, and is in the power of governments to make every class of their people, at the same time as they are exerting their industry intentionally for themselves, to be made to act for the good of the whole. The wealth of America continued its effects in Europe; all orders of men shewed an uncommon rapacity for gold and silver; even the clergy oppressed, where opportunity offered; £.666. 13. 4. was at this time exacted for the probate of a will: thus either living or dead the people had great reason to be concerned for their estates, and the sweating-sickness increased their anxiety.

An. Dom. 1530.

Oats £.0. 5. 6. per quarter, beans £.0. 7. 3½. per quarter,
hay-makers wages £.0. 0. 2. per day.

An. Dom. 1531.

An ox £.1. 16. 8. a sheep £.0. 3. 10¾. a capon £.0. 0. 8½.
a pullet £.0. 0. 2¾.

An. Dom. 1532.

Wheat £.0. 8. 10. per quarter, malt £.0. 5. 0. per quarter,
Oats £.0. 3. 8½. per quarter, beans £.0. 7. 3½. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1533.

By act of parliament, beef and pork were to be sold at near
£.0. 0. 0¼. or ⅙ of a penny per pound, mutton and veal at
near

near £. 0. 0. 1. or $\frac{83}{100}$ of a penny per pound: the statute says, these were the provisions of the poorer sort, a fat ox then sold for £. 1. 16. 6. a fat weather for £. 0. 5. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$. a fat calf £. 0. 5. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$. a lamb £. 0. 1. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$. the butchers in London sold their meat for the relief of the poor at £. 0. 0. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$. per stone, and butchers not free of the city were permitted to sell flesh in Leaden-hall-market.

The circumstances about the year 1530 were such, that they produced a remarkable increase of poor: England at this time possessed no colonies; and to employ the industrious, they had but few manufactures to have recourse to: the gaiety of the age renewed the ardour in the gentry to obtain money to support their expences; as they could not or would not wait for the slow but surer returns made by manufactures, they passed an act permitting the exportation of unwrought wool; the consequence was a monopoly both of sheep and land. In 1534, the king asserting his supremacy in the church, soon had it in his power, in part to gratify the rapacity of his courtiers.

An. Dom. 1535.

Oats £. 0. 3. 8. per quarter.

But the exportation of raw wool, and the monopoly consequent thereof, beggaring numbers of families, that before had been employed, either in small farms, or in the woollen manufacture, it became of absolute necessity to put a stop thereto; accordingly in 1536, an act passed, that for every fifty, forty or thirty acres of land, there should be builded one sufficient tenement meet for an honest man to dwell in: upon its being represented that the country was not equally fertile, this law was restricted to thirteen rich counties, and to the Isle of Weight: this same year 376 of the lesser monasteries were suppressed.

An. Dom. 1537.

Oats £. 0. 4. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$. per quarter, beans £. 0. 8. 3. per quarter, sea-coals at Newcastle £. 0. 2. 9. per chaldron, in London £. 0. 5. 6. per chaldron.

The opinion of the great men concerning the suppression of the lesser monasteries will best appear by others in 1538 undergoing the same fate; the amount of their whole revenues was £. 222,318 per annum, beside the moveables; these estates, though sold to the king's favourites at low prices, influenced greatly the circumstances of agriculture; for church-lands having been let at small rents, and upon lease, the farmers looked upon themselves as proprietors, being careful always to renew in time: hospitality had been the constant practice of abbies, but the new possessors in raising the rents instilled different principles into their tenants, and recommended to the mendicants, what from want of habit, talent and perhaps inclination, they were unable to do, and what now was scarce to be found, work; in these and such like cases, charitable advice answers a double purpose, more especially when dictated by the authors of necessity.

Money

Money was wanting to make these purchases however at low rates, and the interest thereof was fixed at £. 10. per cent. In 1541, colleges, hospitals and other like foundations, as also part of the temporalities of the sees of Canterbury, York, and London, by the king's orders deserted their former owners, and by the same means as before the monasteries had, these now returned into lay-hands. It might have been expected so great and easy acquisitions made by the gentry, would have engaged their attention to ease the people of the enormous monopolies of land and sheep which still subsisted; flocks of fifteen, twenty thousand sheep and more, at this time were common, and this was supported by the exportation of unwrought wool; every necessary of life increased in price, from the over-proportion of pasture land, with respect to the quantity employed in tillage: industry was oppressed, the kingdom depopulated; beside, the law passed in 1535, it was found requisite to enact, farmers should be restrained from keeping more than two thousand sheep.

For the war with Scotland, in 1545, a tax of £. 0. 1. 4 $\frac{3}{4}$. per pound was laid upon the land, during the latter years of this reign; the king suffered his coin continually to be debased, so that his shillings in 1547, the first year of king Edward VI. passed for nine-pence, afterwards for six-pence only. What was left of free chapels and chantries, were now seized and divided among the courtiers, together with some spiritual benefices, which were bestowed on lay-men; the monopolies, the increased price of provisions and labour, the debasement of the coin, the exportation of unwrought wool, although they procured a ready gain to a few individuals, yet were they the ruin of all commerce; so that the trade of England was now confined to the Netherlands only: these distresses, the raising of rents, and the inclosing of commons, for the two years following occasioned insurrections of no small consequence, in Wiltshire, Oxfordshire, Gloucestershire, Kent, Sussex, Hampshire, Devonshire, Yorkshire and Norfolk: impatience to possess wealth, subverts the real enjoyment of it.

An. Dom. 1550.

Wheat £. 0. 5. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$. per quarter, malt £. 0. 4. 2. per quarter, barley £. 0. 3. 9. per quarter, rye £. 0. 3. 0. per quarter, oats £. 0. 1. 10. per quarter, sweet butter £. 0. 0. 1. per pound, dowlas £. 0. 0. 9. per yard, lockram £. 0. 0. 7. per yard, mens shoes £. 0. 0. 11. womens shoes £. 0. 0. 7. a pair of boots the best sort £. 0. 3. 4. an ox £. 0. 18. 0. a sheep £. 0. 1. 6. measures at this time were very uncertain and variable; at Saltash the bushel was 12 gallons, at Lowe 16 gallons, at Penryn 18 gallons, the measure of oats great, but no where of one and the same size.

An. Dom. 1551.

Wheat £. 0. 1. 9. per quarter, malt £. 0. 1. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. per quarter, oats £. 0. 1. 9. per quarter, straw £. 0. 1. 2. per load, malmsey wine £. 0. 0. 1. per quart.

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An. Dom. 1552.

Wheat £.o. 2. 4. per quarter, barley £.o. 1. 2. per quarter,
beef, mutton and veal £.o. o. 1. per pound.

An. Dom. 1553.

Wheat £.o. 8. 2. per quarter, but fell to £.o. 5. 1. malt
£.o. 5. 1. per quarter, a ton of wine £.6. 5. o.

An. Dom. 1554.

Wheat £.o. 8. 2. but fell to £.o. 4. 1. per quarter, malt
£.o. 5. 1. per quarter, rye £.o. 6. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$.

An. Dom. 1555.

Wheat £.o. 8. 2. per quarter, malt £.o. 5. 1. per quarter,
rye £.o. 16. 4. per quarter, sea-coals at £.o. 12. 3. per
chaldron.

An. Dom. 1556.

Wheat £.o. 8. 2. but fell to £.o. 4. 7. per quarter, malt
£.o. 5. 1. per quarter, beans £.o. 7. 11. the weight of a pen-
ny loaf in London was 11 ounces troy, and the penny then was
as 1 to 1,0239 the penny now.

An. Dom. 1557.

Wheat £.o. 8. 2. rose to £.2. 14. 4. and fell again to
£.o. 5. 1. per quarter, malt £.o. 5. 1. rose to £.2. 4. 10. and
fell again to £.o. 6. 10. per quarter, rye £.o. 8. 2. fell to
£.o. 3. 6. per quarter, oats £.o. 10. 3. per quarter, pease
£.2. 6. 8. per quarter, weight of a penny loaf in London 26
ounces troy.

An. Dom. 1558.

Wheat £.o. 8. 2. rose to £.o. 14. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$. per quarter, rye
£.o. 8. 2. per quarter, barley £.o. 5. 1. a good sheep £.o. 3. 6.

An. Dom. 1559.

Wheat £.o. 8. 2. per quarter, rye £.o. 8. 2. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1560.

Wheat £.o. 8. 2. per quarter, barley £.o. 5. 3. per quarter,
rye £.o. 8. 2. per quarter, oats £.o. 5. 1. per quarter, a load
of old hay £.o. 12. 10. of new hay £.o. 7. 10.

An. Dom. 1561.

Wheat £.o. 8. 3. per quarter, malt £.o. 5. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. per quarter,
barley £.o. 5. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. per quarter, rye £.o. 8. 3. per quarter, oats
£.o. 5. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. per quarter; at Norwich, two bushels of flour sold
for £.o. 1. 6. beef 112 pounds for £.o. 5. 11. beer £.o. 2. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$.
per barrel, 34 eggs for £.o. o. 6.

An. Dom. 1562.

Wheat £.o. 8. 3. per quarter, barley £.o. 5. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. per quarter,
hay £.o. 13. 9. per load, straw £.o. 6. o. per load, an hogthead
of claret wine £.2. 10. o.

An. Dom. 1563.

Rye £.o. 13. 9. per quarter, oats £.o. 5. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. per quarter.

England at present with a ruinous trade, the minds of the
people wholly engrossed with religious disputes, they were more
backward in the improvement of agriculture and manufactures,
than the states on the continent: their partial profits arose chief-
ly from the exportation of wool, and even these were contracted

by monopolies, and by the baseness of the coin, which in the year 1552 was three fourths allay; so that for want of employment, the people deserted in such quantity, as their loss became remarkable; what little foreign trade there was, aliens carried on.

Queen Mary endeavoured to remedy this ill state of affairs, by nearly restoring the current coin to its standard; but by this the people lost one fourth of their money; the price at which wheat was allowed to be sent abroad must have been thought too high, for now an act passed allowing the exportation of it when under £.0. 6. 9½. per quarter. The great sums the queen extorted from the people, occasioned interest to rise to £. 14. per cent. which soon after returned to £. 12. and then to £. 10. per cent. The variation in price of grain in 1557 was entirely owing to her seizing all the corn and provisions she could find in Norfolk and Suffolk for victualling of her fleet. The year following, which was the first of the reign of queen Elizabeth, violent tempests, particularly in Nottinghamshire, did great mischief; a tax of £.0. 4. 0. per pound was laid on land, and £.0. 2. 6. on goods: interest rose to £. 12. per cent. but the queen now effectually remedied the base coin, and fixed the standard which subsists at this time.

In the year 1561, the free exportation of corn was allowed; as soon as this permission began to operate, grain of every specie rose in value: the prices of corn, and that of all other provisions at and before this time were so moderate and low, this ordinance could not be said to be oppressive to industry, or to the people in general: it is equally necessary the interest of agriculture should be encouraged as that of trade; to maintain the just mean, which supports the one, without injuring the other, is undoubtedly the good of the whole. 1569 produced a plague, and the interest of money lowered to £. 6. per cent. The year following, to prevent the consequences of an excess in the free exportation of corn, at the charge of the city of London in Bridewell were built publick grainaries, which contained 6000 quarters of wheat and 4000 chaldrons of coals; at the same time, John Payne produced to the lord-mayor, a mill to grind corn, it was worked by persons maimed, either of legs or arms, and ground two bushels per hour, so that one mill would supply one thousand people with flour per day.

An. Dom. 1572.

The price of a capon was £.0. 1. 4½. a hen £.0. 0. 8½. best butter £.0. 0. 3. per pound, a chicken £.0. 0. 3. a goose £.0. 1. 0.

An. Dom. 1573.

Wheat from £. 1. 4. 9. rose to £. 2. 17. 8½. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1574.

Wheat from £. 2. 17. 8½. fell to £. 1. 4. 9. per quarter, beef sold at £.0. 1. 10½. per stone, five herrings cost £.0. 0. 2. bay salt £.0. 6. 2. per bushel.

An.

An. Dom. 1575.

Wheat £.1. 4. 9. per quarter.

The rise of corn in 1573 is very extraordinary, as it did not proceed from any real scarcity; it is recorded, there were no want to him who wanted not money; but that it was the consequence of the unbounded liberty to export grain, there can be no doubt; for Lionel Ducker then lord-mayor of London, signified to the lord-treasurer, that this rise in price was occasioned by the great exportation of all sorts of grain to the Netherlands. The dearth which happened the year following made them repent they had exchanged their corn for gold; a real scarcity came on, it extended to every kind of provision, and its usual consequence, a pestilence, took place. Violent storms of hail and lightning in 1575, maintained the prices at a high rate: some judgment may be formed of the trade in these times by the number of seamen employed; for the queen's service and that of the merchants were entertained 14295 men, the militia of England was 182929 men.

An. Dom. 1585.

Malt £.0. 12. 0. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1586.

Wheat £.2. 18. 8. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1587.

Wheat £.3. 6. 6. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1588.

Wheat £.0. 6. 5. per quarter.

The riches of America possessed by the Spaniards, as yet had not found a sufficient number of fixed channels to flow quietly into all the states of Europe; this want of a level, fixed the attentions and desires of mankind towards the heap. The high prices of corn in 1586 and 1587, Penkethman observes, were occasioned partly by the unseasonableness of the year, partly by the covetousness of corn-masters, but especially through the unlawful and over-much transporting of grain: bishop Fleetwood confirms this, and the necessities of the times were such, the queen published a book of orders to be taken by the justices, for the relief of the poor. The threatened invasion of Spain caused the interest of money to rise to £. 10. per cent. the number of seamen in England were the same as before, but in a few years, by the many monopolies granted, and by the rise of provisions in price, trade diminished, and they lessened in number one third. The use of sea-coals was so common, they became a matter of public attention; a combination among the coal-owners at Newcastle is now mentioned, they had raised the price to £.0. 9. 3. per chaldron, which for many years before were always sold at £.0. 4. 2. per chaldron.

An. Dom. 1592.

Wheat £.0. 19. 6½. per quarter.

Before 1562, the mean price of wheat for many years was about £.0. 8. 3. per quarter, and probably continued so, or with little variation, to 1572; for these ten years we want informations,
and

and historians generally give them but on extraordinary occasions, such as dearths and famines. The remarkable rise in the price of grain, to three times its former value, and which became constant and rather more, after the year 1593, most probably was the consequence of more causes than one. The first cause of this, we have seen to arise from a boundless liberty given to export corn in 1561, to which may be added the habit of monopolising, in great measure supported, at least permitted by queen Elizabeth, which oppressed the English manufactures; again, to the great riches which the laity obtained by the suppression of religious houses in the time of king Henry VIII. which riches now appeared without danger, and to the increase of gold and silver in Europe furnished out of the American mines: undoubtedly it was sound policy in England to seek to share this wealth; and the state did this, by a continued war, and suffering an unlimited exportation of grain; but it would more effectually have been done by labour, industry and commerce; such measures would have employed, fed and increased the people both in number and riches; whereas we see they were for a long time over-burdened with poor, an evil they greatly complained of, and never to the purpose remedied: exchanging corn (the growth of which employs but few hands in proportion to what manufactures require) for gold and silver, was cramping industry, and placing England nearly under the same circumstances as Spain and Portugal were: possessors of a choice metal, with little or no power to keep it, when England exports corn with too great a latitude, or without bounds, by employing her lands to feed the rivals of her trade, she causes provisions of every kind to rise in value above equitable terms; this, to the oppression of her industrious poor, undoubtedly then she acts contrary to her internal peace, and contrary to her own interest: when she exports her surplus corn only, or what conveniently can be spared above what is necessary to preserve her people from a scarcity, and as far only as this, becomes necessary to support agriculture with an adequate profit, she then acts for her advantage; the verge of these two extremes in every age merit the strictest enquiry.

An. Dom. 1594.

Wheat from £. 2. 17. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$. per quarter, rose to £. 3. 8. 0. per quarter, rye £. 2. 1. 2. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1595.

Wheat from £. 2. 14. 11. fell to £. 1. 12. 2. per quarter, malt £. 0. 16. 0. per quarter; from the great scarcity of grain an egg sold for £. 0. 0. 1. butter £. 0. 0. 7 $\frac{1}{4}$. per pound.

An. Dom. 1596.

Wheat £. 1. 17. 4. per quarter, malt £. 1. 0. 7. per quarter, rye £. 2. 8. 0. per quarter, oatmeal £. 3. 18. 10. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1597.

Wheat £. 2. 14. 6. per quarter, malt £. 1. 16. 3. per quarter, rye £. 1. 5. 0. per quarter.

An.

An. Dom. 1598.

Wheat £. 2. 4. 2. per quarter, malt £. 1. 5. 6. per quarter, pepper £. 0. 8. 3. per pound, raisins £. 0. 0. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$. per pound, Gascoigne wine £. 0. 2. 9. per gallon, sweet wine £. 0. 4. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. per gallon.

An. Dom. 1599.

Wheat £. 1. 10. 6. per quarter, malt £. 0. 18. 3. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1600.

Wheat £. 1. 9. 4. per quarter, malt £. 0. 15. 8. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1601.

Wheat £. 1. 7. 1. per quarter, malt £. 0. 19. 0. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1602.

Wheat £. 1. 2. 10. per quarter, malt £. 0. 13. 6. per quarter.

An. Dom. 1603.

Wheat £. 1. 7. 6. per quarter, malt £. 0. 11. 5. per quarter.

The war with Spain occasioned interest of money to be at £. 10. per cent. ; on account of the alarming prices of provisions, the queen ordered an assay to be made of bread by the clerk of the market of her household ; the magistracy applied every possible relief : in 1594, the lord-mayor enjoined the companies of the city of London to lay in their provision of corn, for preventing a scarcity, before the coming in of new corn ; the Bridge-house was a common grainary for London : the year following great quantities of wheat and rye were imported, to reimplace what before had been sent away : 1596 brought with it great rains, which prevented the plenty so long wished for ; new endeavours to alleviate the calamity were put in practice, free stowage and customs were granted to the merchants to import grain, and great quantities came from the east countries, particularly from Dantzick : Thomas Skinner, then lord-mayor of London, by his diligence to procure a plenty of provisions of every kind, became a father to the city ; but the cause continuing, the unlimited exportation of corn being permitted, and carried to excess as long as the queen lived, every well-intentioned attempt to restore plenty became fruitless ; monopolies, dearth and famine, by turns and sometimes jointly assailed the kingdom : either of these alone, had been sufficient to put an invincible restraint on commerce and emulation. English manufactures were now in the lowest state, a preference every where was given to foreign wares, the poor were without employ, and almost every county furnished three or four hundred vagabonds, who lived by theft and rapine ; at last the queen resumed many of the monopolies she had granted, but the nation felt happier effects, from an act passed in the first year of king James I. by which he was im-
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powered at any time by proclamation to prohibit the exportation of corn generally, or out of any special ports by name, for such time as shall be therein limited.

These prices of grain and of provisions with many of the observations added, were collected from Penkethman, Fleetwood, Maitland, Hume, Smollet, &c. it was unnecessary to refer to the particular author for every quotation, there being a want of certitude as to the identity of the measures, and of knowledge as to the markets or towns where such prices were obtained: but a collection even of this sort reduced to the present standard of our coin, must give us a general idea of the causes which frequently increased the prices of the necessaries of life, the methods our ancestors took to secure plenty, and of the many errors they were led into, by which they brought on dearths and pestilence: this, however inaccurate, was thought to be a necessary intelligence; hereafter in the following part of this treatise we shall tread on surer ground.

Mean Price of the Necessaries of Life from the Year 1524 to the Second Year of the Reign of King JAMES I. A. D. 1604.

Purchase of land	Rent of land per acre	Interest of money	Wheat per quarter	Malt per quarter	Sea-coals per chaldron	Hay per load
		£. 9. 16. 0 per cent.	Conjectured £. 0. 15. 0.	£. 0. 10. 0.	£. 0. 7. 9½	£. 0. 11. 6. Straw £. 0. 3. 7.
Price of cattle	Price of fowls	Butchers meat per stone	Ale and beer per gallon	Linen and woollen cloths per yard	Butter and cheese per pound	Wages and labour per day
An ox £. 1. 16. 7 A sheep 0. 4. 3½ A calf 0. 5. 6 A lamb 0. 1. 4½	A goose £. 0. 1. 0 A pullet 0. 0. 2½ A capon 0. 1. 0½ A hen 0. 0. 8½ Chicken 0. 0. 3	Beef and pork £. 0. 0. 11. Mutton and veal £. 0. 0. 7.	£. 0. 0. 1½.	Dowlas £. 0. 0. 9 Lockram 0. 0. 7	Best butter £. 0. 0. 5.	Hay-makers £. 0. 0. 2.

A N
E N Q U I R Y
I N T O T H E
P R I C E S
O F
W H E A T and M A L T,
And occasionally of other PROVISIONS, &c.

P A R T II.

S E C T I O N VII.

THE consequences of the rise of provisions, when unsupported by a proportional export of industry, keep even pace with the cause: if the rise is supportable by the industrious poor, they retrench some conveniences, and few or no complaints are heard: does it reach, in point of purchase, to an equality with the earnings of their labour; every accident (and these are inevitable) excite their murmurs, and betray their straitened situation: when the money required to obtain the necessaries of life, exceeds that procured by the utmost exertion of their strength and talents, they lose all hope, they detest their occupations, with reluctance do they follow an employment that will not maintain them: they cast about for some other business apparently to themselves more lucrative, though less beneficial to the state: if here they do not succeed, and but seldom it is the case; debts and dangers induce them to quit the land: when provisions of every kind continue dear for a long time, what from hence, and the consequent decay of manufactures, by the increased price of labour; the kingdom fills with vagrants, idleness and despair, insurrections become frequent, order and subordination are but little regarded; the people seek the authors of their misery, and but too often unjustifiably revenge their wrongs; the dread of punishment for this, in the hour of reflection too frequently casts them into habits beyond recovery; the consequence of which is theft, debauch, vices of every kind, and dangers from hence fill cities, towns and public roads.

The

The experience of past ages proves this, and remarkably the times near the years 1362 and 1595: to justify the starving of the poor, it is no argument to say they are idle, licentious, and that necessity alone can compel them to labour; this reproach favours of little else than obduracy of heart and of tyranny; the indigent under the pangs of want are sufficiently miserable without the additional torment of such reflections; their passions are exactly the same with those of their superiors, in different subjects alike diversified: would we have them to contain and govern these passions, let us first remove those causes, which are known to make them exceed their bounds; let us shew them the example; let care be taken the price of their labour be sufficient to sustain them and their families, by the prices of provisions being such as shall benefit the whole community: if, after this, they offend the laws of the land, let those laws punish them; but let not any set of private men promulgate the most illicit, interested and cruellest means, that of maintaining provisions at high prices, as a pretended aid to legislative power to bring about a reformation which self-interest and avarice would have us to believe there is an uncommon necessity for.

These observations, gathered from facts, were necessary to be made before we entered that series of years, where we have a full and certain knowledge not only of the prices, but of the quality and measure of wheat and malt: "These (says the Author of the Three Tracts on the Corn-Trade) are the prices
 " of the best wheat and malt; and the bushel at Windsor contains nine gallons: they are taken from the audit-book of
 " Eaton-College, whose baker and brewer attend Windsor-market, on the market-days next before Lady-day and Michaelmas, and bring the highest prices that wheat and malt are
 " sold for in the market on those days to the provost and fellows; and it cannot be doubted but they are taken with great
 " care, for according thereto, the rents are settled for the current year, it being left to the tenants option whether he will
 " pay in wheat and malt in kind, or in money, at the said market-place. They can by no means give a true state of the
 " mean, or the middle prices of the said corn or grain, or what
 " the value would have been of all the wheat fit for bread,
 " and all the malt made from all the barley fit for that purpose; but yet the same may be found from them with great
 " exactness, by deducting one ninth, for the difference of the
 " bushel above the statute measure, and then one ninth more for
 " the remainder; for it has been found, that the value of all
 " wheat fit for bread if mixed together, would be eight ninths
 " of the value of the best wheat, and the same proportion may
 " reasonably be supposed in barley."

In the general growth of wheat, there are supposed to be three sorts, and in the following proportion; one fourth of the best sort, one fourth of the second sort, and two fourths of the third sort; when the best wheat is at £. 0. 6. 0. per bushel, the second sort is at £. 0. 5. 6. per bushel, and the third and
 2 fourth

fourth sorts at £. 0. 5. 0. per bushel; so that one £. 0. 6. 0. one £. 0. 5. 6. and two £. 0. 5. 0. added together making £. 1. 1. 6. divided by 4, the produce is £. 0. 5. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$. which makes the average price £. 0. 0. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$. less than the best, an abatement thereon of nearly one ninth; when grain is cheaper, the difference will be found to be one eighth; from whence it appears, with these deductions, the prices are kept at the highest rates; but according to these the following tables are made out. I have added the duties on malt, at the times they took place; and when the bounty was paid for exportation, from the same author have taken the quantities exported, and calculated the sum of money paid yearly by the government for this purpose, and in a separate column set down the quantities imported. This method was chosen, as this enquiry was purposely made to examine how the granting a bounty to export corn when at high prices, affected the people of England, either in the prices of provisions or their manufactures.

If in the disposition I have made of these materials, and in the conclusions, I differ widely from the ingenious author of the treatise abovementioned, it is with regret; there can be no doubt but a gentleman who has been at the trouble to collect so many useful papers on this subject, in giving his opinion thereon, has done it from the light these matters appeared to him in; from the sincerity apparent in some parts of his work, it is clear he must be pleased with a similar integrity.

Year	Price per quar- ter wheat £. s. d.	Price per quar- ter malt £. s. d.	Quarters of grain exported	Bounty paid £. s. d.	Quarters of grain imported
1601	1. 7. 1	0. 19. 0			
1602	1. 2. 10	0. 13. 6			
1603	1. 7. 6	0. 11. 5			
1604	1. 3. 10½	0. 11. 5			
1605	1. 7. 9	0. 17. 1			
1606	1. 5. 8	0. 15. 1			
1607	1. 8. 7	0. 14. 3			
1608	2. 4. 1	0. 18. 8			
1609	1. 18. 11	1. 2. 6½			
1610	1. 7. 11	0. 15. 1			
Mean price of these ten years	1. 9. 8½ ⅙	0. 15. 9½ ⅙			

Reigned	Peace or War	OBSERVATIONS.
Elizabeth	War with Spain and in Ireland	Many monopolies, though mostly of superfluities, yet they hurt the people and are complained of in parliament. The queen sells her royal demesnes to support the war in Ireland.
	War Spain and Ireland	Monopolies, as they put an invincible restraint on commerce and emulation, and that thereby domestic industry was extinguished; the queen resumes many of them. The French began to plant mulberry-trees to encourage the growth of silk.
James I.	War Spain and Ireland	A great plague, which carried off one fifth of the inhabitants of London; provisions accounted very dear. By proclamation the king suspends all monopolies. An act passed regulating corn not to be exported, if wheat be more in price than £. 1. 6. 8. per quarter, rye £. 0. 15. 0. pease and beans £. 0. 15. 0. malt and barley £. 0. 14. 0.
	Peace	Monopolies checked, and industry encouraged. The commons endeavoured to free the land from that badge of slavery, the courts of wards and liveries; they offered the king £. 200,000 per annum in perpetuity, but did not succeed.
	Peace	The English merchants in general carry on their trade in foreign bottoms.
	Peace	Interest of money £. 8. per cent. Seamen's wages in the king's service £. 0. 14. 0. per month.
	Peace	The Severn caused a mighty inundation in the counties of Gloucester and Somerset. An insurrection in Northamptonshire. Pasture land ingrossed on purpose to export unwrought wool: tillage neglected.
	Peace	The king on account of the high prices of corn, issues out good orders against monopolists, who bought up and ingrossed grain of every species.
	Peace	A great frost from December to April, followed by a very hot summer.
	Peace	Monopolies of several kinds revive, particularly licences for selling wine. The commons again endeavour the abolition of the courts of wards and liveries, but cannot raise the money to pay the king. Twelve new public grainaries for corn are erected in Bridewell, London.

Year	Wheat per quarter £. s. d.	Malt per quarter £. s. d.	Quarters of grain exported	Bounty paid £. s. d.	Quarters of grain imported
1611	1. 10. 1	0. 15. 4			
1612	1. 12. 11	0. 19. 9½			
1613	1. 17. 10	1. 0. 5½			
1614	1. 12. 5	1. 1. 0			
1615	1. 10. 0½	0. 19. 8½			
1616	1. 11. 4½	0. 19. 0½			
1617	1. 17. 10	0. 15. 10			
1618	1. 16. 3	0. 15. 6½			
1619	1. 7. 5½	0. 15. 3			
1620	1. 3. 6	0. 14. 6			
Mean price of these ten years	1. 11. 11½ 6/10	0. 17. 7¼			

Reigned	Peace or War	OBSERVATIONS.
James I.	Peace	The gold and silver of the West-Indies, become more plentiful in England, as well as in Europe; their intrinsic value being less, the value of land and provisions rise in price.
	Peace	The sea overflows part of the counties of Norfolk and Lincolnshire: now was observed, arts and industry begin to increase.
	Peace	
	Peace	The pay of soldiers sent to Ireland £. 0. 0. 8. per day. The king to raise money without a parliament, grants monopolies. The new-river water is brought to London.
	Peace	
	Peace	The Dutch, before this, used to dress the woollen cloths made in England, by which they gained £. 700,000 per annum. The king forbid the exportation of undressed cloth; at first, the concerned murmured, but in the end this order was of great public benefit.
	Peace	The king's revenue { Crown lands - - - - - £. 80,000 Wardships and purveyance - - - 180,000 Customs - - - - - 190,000 Total - - £. 450,000
	Peace	Commissioners were directed to buy, and fill the public magazines of corn, when wheat was less than £. 1. 12. 0. per quarter, rye less than £. 0. 18. 0 per quarter, and barley less than £. 0. 16. 0. per quarter; undoubtedly at these salutary prices the interest both of the farmer and consumer were in this order attended to.
	Peace	Unwrought wool still exported; this made it dear, and hurt the woollen manufactures.
	Peace	A hard frost: agriculture improves in England. Gondemar, the Spanish ambassador, distributes much money among the English courtiers.

Year	Wheat per quarter £. s. d.	Malt per quarter £. s. d.	Quarters of grain exported	Bounty paid £. s. d.	Quarters of grain imported
1621	1. 3. 6	0. 12. 5½			
1622	2. 5. 7½	1. 0. 2½			Great quantities
1623	2. 0. 3	1. 4. 3			
1624	1. 17. 4	0. 18. 2			

Mean Price of the Necessaries of Life from the Year 1602, to the first Year of King CHARLES I. 1625, (*i. e.*) the whole Reign of King JAMES I.

Purchase of land -	Rent of land per acre	Interest of money	Wheat per quarter	Malt per quarter	Sea coals per chaldron	Hay per load
14 years ½		£. 8. 10. 0 per cent.	£. 1. 12. 3½	£. 0. 17. 1¼		
Price of cat- tle	Price of fowls	Butchers meat per stone	Ale and beer per gallon	Linen and woollen cloths per yard	Butter and cheese per pound	Wages and labour per day
			Ale £. 0. 0. 4 Small beer £. 0. 0. 2			A foot-sol- dier's pay £. 0. 0. 8.

It was now 130 years since the discovery of America; the wealth which Spain yearly received from this quarter of the world had enervated her subjects, induced them to sloth and indolence, and in fact rendered them tributaries to every trading and industrious nation, for the enjoyments, conveniencies and necessaries of life: thus, these immense sums having found their due course, and no sudden change being apprehended, from an unexpected glut of gold and silver; under the peaceful reign of king James I. commerce increased, and brought a great share of the Peruvian mines into England; all the influence, the riches of America could produce on the prices of
corn

Reigned	Peace or War	OBSERVATIONS.
James I.	Peace	The commons petition against monopolies and succeed. Land at 14 and 15 years purchase. Interest of money £. 10. per cent.
	Peace	The quantity of pasture land in proportion to tillage was now so great, and the number of sheep were so multiplied, as occasioned wool to sell at low prices.
	Peace	By large impositions laid on exports, and by the dearth of corn; industry was cramped, and trade made little or no progress. Wool £. 1. 13. 0 per tod, velvet £. 1. 2. 0. per yard; corn not to be exported if wheat be more than £. 1. 12. 0. per quarter, rye £. 1. 0. 0. beans, pease, barley and malt £. 0. 16. 0. per quarter, and no bounty allowed.
	War with Spain and Austria	An Act passed against monopolies; by this no man is supposed to seek his private interest to the prejudice of the public. An act was made altering that of king Edward the VI. against forestallers and engrossers. Interest of money £. 8. per cent.

corn and provisions had taken place; no civil war had impeded agriculture, but tillage was oppressed by the reigning taste of the age for pasture land, which almost was wholly employed to the detriment of the kingdom by the exportation of unwrought wool. The circumstances of this period, such as unseasonable weather, monopolies, inundations, &c. abate greatly of what might be termed prosperous seasons, and a constant and uniform plenty, but these injuries did not reach such extremes as betoken dearths and famines; the interest of money had fell, commerce had increased, and the value of land rose in a due proportion. In the last year of this æra the parliament passed an act against monopolies, vindicating the laws of nature, laws antecedent to all others, by which no man can be thought innocent, who for excessive private gain weakens the bands of society: in short, this reign was sufficiently distant from that great change which had happened in pecuniary matters not to be discomposed thereby, for the standard of the coin was in no wise interrupted. It immediately preceded those dire events of civil discord and confusion which ravaged the land, which pulled down kings, subverted the laws, and brought on anarchy so as to render doubtful every title and every lease belonging to private estates: a kingdom thus convulsed for many years together, requires a long time to attain to the peace and improvement this reign had left England in; the 25 years, during which king Charles II. held the scepter, were scarcely sufficient to effect this; so that when we come to examine the consequences of granting a bounty to export corn when at high prices, or when it exceeds the purchase of the industrious poor; we have no period with which a just comparison can be made, except the reign of king James I. for this purpose we designedly made one entire period of it.

SECTION

SECTION VIII.

Year	Wheat per quarter £. s. d.	Malt per quarter £. s. d.	Quarters of grain exported	Bounty paid £. s. d.	Quarters of grain imported
1621	1. 3. 6	0. 12. 5½			
1622	2. 5. 7½	1. 0. 2½			Great quantities
1623	2. 0. 3	1. 4. 3			
1624	1. 17. 4	0. 18. 2			
1625	2. 0. 3	0. 16. 8			
1626	1. 18. 4½	1. 1. 6			
1627	1. 8. 0	0. 15. 6½			
1628	1. 1. 9	0. 16. 0			
1629	1. 12. 6	0. 18. 6			
1630	2. 3. 3½	1. 6. 5½			
Mean price of these ten years	1. 15. 1 ² / ₁₀	0. 18. 11 ¹ / ₂ ⁸ / ₁₀			

Reigned	Peace or War	OBSERVATIONS.
James I.	Peace	The commons petition the king against monopolies, and succeed. Land at 14 and 15 years purchase. Interest of money £.10 per cent.
	Peace	The quantity of pasture-land in proportion to tillage was now so great, and the number of sheep were so multiplied, as occasioned wool to sell at low prices.
	Peace	By large impositions laid on exports, and by the dearness of corn, industry was cramped, and trade made little or no progress. Wool £. 1. 13. 0. per tod, velvet £. 1. 2. 0. per yard; corn not to be exported, if wheat be more than £. 1. 12. 0. per quarter, rye £. 1. 0. 0. beans, pease, barley and malt £. 0. 16. 0. per quarter, and no bounty paid.
	War with Spain and Austria	An act passed against monopolies: by this no man is supposed to seek his private interest to the prejudice of the publick. An act was made altering that of king Edward VI. against forestallers and engrossers. Interest of money £. 8. per cent.
Charles I.	War with Spain and Austria	A great plague: pasture land in great request: the sowing of grain neglected: number of seamen in the merchants service 10,000: nine tenths of the trade of England, wool and woollen goods. A severe winter. An act passed to restrain drunkenness.
	War with Spain and Austria	The price of a turkey-cock £. 0. 4. 6. a turkey-hen £. 0. 3. 0. a pheasant £. 0. 6. 0. a pheasant-hen £. 0. 5. 0. a partridge £. 0. 1. 0. a goose £. 0. 2. 0. a pullet £. 0. 1. 6. twelve pigeons £. 0. 6. 0. Seamen's wages in the king's service £. 1. 0. 0. per month.
	War with Spain, Austria and France	Twenty thousand broad-cloths annually sent to Turkey: the people about this time are said to be enriched by commerce. An act of parliament passed, altering the act of 1563, regulating the purchase and sale of corn.
	War with Spain, Austria and France	The house of commons remonstrate to the king the great decay of trade.
	War with Spain, Austria and France	The king to raise money grants monopolies.
	Peace	The king issues a proclamation on the present general scarcity, and the dearth likely to fall out the following year.

Year	Wheat per quarter £. s. d.	Malt per quarter £. s. d.	Quarters of grain exported	Bounty paid £. s. d.	Quarters of grain imported
1631	2. 12. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	1. 10. 1			
1632	2. 1. 6	1. 4. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$			
1633	2. 5. 1	1. 1. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$			
1634	2. 3. 7	1. 5. 2			
1635	2. 3. 7	1. 1. 6			
1636	2. 4. 1	1. 2. 3			
1637	2. 1. 3	1. 10. 7			
1638	2. 4. 7	1. 12. 11			
1639	1. 14. 11	1. 4. 8			
1640	1. 14. 10	1. 1. 6			
Mean price of these ten years	2. 2. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{2}{16}$	1. 5. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$			

Reigned	Peace or War	OBSERVATIONS.
Charles I.	Peace	Monopolies are revived, and prove destructive to industry.
	Peace	During the peaceable years of this reign, money was in great plenty; £.700,000 a year was coined at the English mint.
	Peace	The king's forests are enlarged, some to sixty miles.
	Peace	Sir Anthony Roper was fined £. 4000 for converting arable land into pasture, contrary to a law made in king Henry VII. time: many others were fined, and many compounded at this time for the same offence.
	Peace	A pestilence.
	Peace	
	Peace	The severities exercised against the puritans cause numbers of them to quit the kingdom, by which many manufactures are carried to Holland and America.
	Peace	
	War with Scotland	The linen manufacture introduced into Ireland by Strafford. The king's want of money advanced the interest of it more than otherwise it would have been.
	War with Scotland	The parliament abolishes monopolies, and expels from their house such members as were monopolists. About 60 ships of 4 or 500 tons each were now employed in the Mediterranean trade by English merchants. Number of seamen both for the king's and merchant's service 42,885. Interest of money £. 8 per cent. Mr. Pym complains to the house of commons that salt, soap, beer, coals, &c. were impaired in goodness and advanced in price by monopolies.

Year	Wheat per quarter £. s. d.	Malt per quarter £. s. d.	Quarters of grain exported	Bounty paid £. s. d.	Quarters of grain imported
1641	1. 17. 4	1. 2. 6½			
1642					
1643					
1644					
1645					

Mean Price of the Necessaries of Life from the Year 1624, to the End of the Chasm, in the Account taken of the Price of Corn by the College of *Eaton*, 1646.

Purchase of land	Rent of land per acre	Interest of money	Wheat per quarter	Malt per quarter	Sea-coals per chaldron	Hay per load
10 Years ½		£. 8 0. 0 per cent.	£. 1 19. 3¼	£. 1. 3. 0½.		
Price of cat- tle	Price of fowls	Butchers meat per stone	Ale and beer per gallon	Linen and woollen cloths per yard	Butter and cheese per pound	Wages and labour per day
	A goose £0.2.0 A pullet 0.1.6 A pigeon 0.0.6 Partridge 0.1.0 Pheasant 0.5.6 A turkey 0.3.9					A foot soldier £. 0. 1. 0. An horseman £. 0. 2. 6.

Reigned	Peace or War	OBSERVATIONS.
Charles I.	Peace	During the whole time of the civil war the current coin suffered much; this contributed to raise the price of provisions. This year there was a riot near the parliament-house, on account of the decay of trade and want of bread. The authority of clerks of markets, who had a general inspection over weights and measures and the wholesomeness of provisions, was transferred to mayors, sheriffs, and ordinary magistrates.
	Civil war	Mens ideas at this time were wholly employed with government affairs, to the neglect of trade and agriculture; a general fanaticism prevailed, the people in great measure forgot the necessary concerns of life: this general disposition of the nation was followed by the civil war. The people carried their plate to be coined into money to the parliament's treasurers, the Universities sent theirs to the king for that purpose.
	Civil war	An excise first laid in England on beer, wines and other commodities. Church-lands sold at 10 and 11 years purchase. The pay of a foot-soldier in the parliament's service was £. 0. 1. 0. per day, a horseman's £. 0. 2. 6. per day; with such pay, men shunned labour and agriculture, and the parliament had not bestowed it on them, but that provisions were dear, and difficult of access.
	Civil war	So unable were the people to pay their taxes, that the parliament, to carry on the civil war, commanded every family to retrench one meal per week, and to pay the value to the state.
	Civil war	The country committees had power to fine, sequester, and punish; they exerted it, backed by an armed authority, wherever resentment, interest, or private pique directed: likely by them the college-estates were sequestered, for above one half of the revenues of the established clergy, met this fate; such may be the reason the college of Eaton doth not furnish the prices of wheat and malt for these four years.

Why corn and provisions were dear during the whole reign of king Charles I. is obvious; his father's court as well as his own were profuse and expensive; this, and the great plenty of money, rose the prices of what may be called superior provisions, and consequently affected the whole. Pasture land was in such request, to furnish foreign nations with unwrought wool, that tillage was shamefully neglected: how difficult it was to restrain this practice, and to what excess it had reached, the many fines levied on this account, and particularly that on Sir Anthony Roper, will prove. It would be a repetition (and the nature and form of this treatise obliges us to more than can be agreeable) to relate the effects of the civil war; they are in general facts peculiar to their cause; and therefore such times cannot be brought in comparison with any, but such as are equally unhappy; comparing times of peace, with times of civil wars, is comparing cultivated lands, to fields ravaged with the cruelest enmity.

SECTION IX.

Year	Wheat per quarter £. s. d.	Malt per quarter £. s. d.	Quarters of grain exported	Bounty paid £. s. d.	Quarters of grain imported
1641	1. 17. 4	1. 2. 6½			
1642					
1643					
1644					
1645					
1646	1. 17. 4	1. 2. 6½			
1647	2. 17. 4	1. 8. 9½			
1648	3. 6. 0½	1. 11. 0½			
1649	3. 2. 0½	1. 12. 6			
1650	2. 19. 7	1. 9. 11½			

Reigned	Peace or War	OBSERVATIONS.
Charles I.	Peace	During the whole time of the civil war, the current coin suffered much, this contributed to raise the price of provisions. This year there was a riot near the parliament-house, on account of the decay of trade and the want of bread. The authority of clerks of markets who had a general inspection over weights and measures, and the wholesomeness of provisions, was transferred to mayors, sheriffs and ordinary magistrates.
	Civil war	Mens ideas at this time were wholly employed in government affairs, to the neglect of trade and agriculture; a general fanaticism prevailed, the people in great measure forgot the necessary concerns of life: this general disposition of the nation was followed by the civil war. The people carried their plate to be coined into money to the parliament's treasurers, the Universities sent theirs to the king for like purpose.
	Civil war	An excise first laid in England on beer, wines and other commodities; church-lands sold at 10 and 11 year's purchase. The pay of a foot-soldier in the parliament's service was £.0.1.0. per day; a horseman's £.0.2.6. per day: with such pay, men shunned labour and agriculture; and the parliament had not bestowed it on them but that provisions were dear, and difficult of access.
	Civil war	So unable were the people to pay their taxes, that the parliament, to carry on the civil war, commanded every family to retrench one meal per week, and to pay the value to the state.
	Civil war	The county committees had power to fine, sequester, and punish; they exerted it, backed by an armed authority, wherever resentment, interest, or private pique directed: likely by them the college estates were sequestered, for above one half of the revenues of the established clergy, met this fate; such may be the reason the college of Eaton doth not furnish the prices of wheat and malt for these four years.
	Civil war	It is recorded, during this part of the civil war, the parliament raised £.40,000,000, this and the confiscation of the cavaliers estates (as the exchequer was abolished,) were never regularly accounted for. The parliament allows the city of London for money borrowed to pay the Scotch army £.8. per cent. and in a surprizing short time £ 200,000 was raised in real specie.
		Near one half of the goods and chattels, and at least one half of the lands of England were sequestered by parliament; under these circumstances, the land could not be cultivated, nor could the rents be paid, much less could leases be granted or taken, one of the means to support agriculture.
	Civil war	The second civil war, insurrections in the North, Yorkshire, Wales, Kent, Essex, &c. All foreign and inland commerce was stoppt. Best ale £.0.0.1. per quart, worst ale two quarts for £.0.0.1. but this measure was only nominal, containing scarcely one pint, so much had the victuallers falsified the standard quart; an abuse which was not rectified until the reign of king William III.
Common-wealth	Civil war and war in Ireland	About this time sprung up the levelling doctrine, and it became a common maxim with fanatics and independants, the masters of the kingdom; that it was unworthy a christian man to pay rent to his fellow creature: no doubt, as many tenants had tender consciences, landlords chose rather to let their estates remain uncultivated, than entrust them with men of such righteous principles.
	War with Scotland	Interest of money £.6.0.0. per cent.

Year	Wheat per quarter £. s. d.	Malt per quarter £. s. d.	Quarters of grain exported	Bounty paid £. s. d.	Quarters of grain imported
1651	2. 17. 0	1. 2. 6½			
1652	1. 18. 6	1. 1. 9½			
1653	1. 7. 7	1. 1. 9½			
1654	1. 0. 2	0. 16. 1			
1655	1. 5. 11	0. 15. 7			
1656	1. 13. 5½	0. 18. 8			
1657	1. 16. 3	1. 2. 0½			
1658	2. 10. 7	1. 2. 10			
1659	2. 11. 4	1. 17. 2½			
1660	2. 3. 11½	1. 5. 4½			
Mean price of these ten years	1. 18. 5½ ⁸ / ₁₀	1. 2. 4½ ² / ₁₀			

Reigned	Peace or War	OBSERVATIONS.
Common-wealth	Civil war	The common-wealth's six-pences were the first milled money in England. Interest of money £. 6. per cent.
	War with Holland	The common people unused to industry and labour, it became necessary to find them employment; the war did this, but if possible, it hurt trade and agriculture more than before.
	War with Holland	Private persons have liberty to coin their own pennies.
	Peace	
	War with Spain	An insurrection of the royalists, but attended with little or no consequence.
	War with Spain	Cromwell institutes ten major-generals, and divides the kingdom into as many districts; these generals oppress the people; sequester, and render the titles of estates more uncertain than before the country committees had done.
	War with Spain	
	War with Spain	Cromwell coined the first English milled crown-piece. A violent storm September 3.
	Peace	Most tempestuous weather prevailed, for a considerable time in July, so that either through fear or superstition, at an incident so unusual in the summer season, it prevented an intended insurrection of the royalists. During the whole time of the common-wealth the courts of wards and liveries were abolished; a general anarchy takes place in the kingdom, only 6 ships now employed in the Mediterranean. See A. D. 1640.
Charles II.	Peace	Interest of Money £. 6. per cent. An act passed allowing the exportation of wheat, until it was in price £. 2. 0. 0. rye £. 1. 4. 0. barley and malt £. 0. 16. 0. per quarter, but without a bounty.

Mean Price of the Necessaries of Life from the Year 1645, to the Restoration of King CHARLES II. A. D. 1660.

Purchase of land	Rent of land per acre	Interest of money	Wheat per quarter	Malt per quarter	Sea coals per chaldron	Hay per load
		£. 6. 0. 0 per cent.	£. 2. 4. 5 $\frac{3}{4}$	£. 1. 4. 7		
Price of cattle	Price of fowls	Butchers meat per stone	Ale and beer per gallon	Linen and woollen cloths per yard	Butter and cheese per pound	Wages and labour per day
			£. 0. 0. 4 Ale £. 0. 0. 2 Small beer			

By comparing the number of seamen maintained in 1588 to those enlisted for 1640, the increase of foreign commerce will be palpable: in that period England employed sixty stout ships in the Streights trade only, which the misery of the civil war in 1659 had reduced to six. The coin was in a very bad state, the public finances worse, the lands despoiled, there was a general confusion of property, and the minds of the people were estranged from application and industry; such was the state of the kingdom, when the government of it was resumed by king Charles II.

(55)

SECTION

(56)
SECTION X.

Year	Wheat per quarter £. s. d.	Malt per quarter £. s. d.	Quarters of grain exported	Bounty paid £. s. d.	Quarters of grain imported
1661	2. 14. 5	1. 9. 5			
1662	2. 17. 6	1. 12. 6			
1663	2. 4. 4	1. 5. 5			
1664	1. 11. 6	1. 3. 4			
1665	1. 18. 4½	1. 2. 0½			
1666	1. 8. 0	1. 0. 2½			
1667	1. 8. 0	0. 17. 7			
1668	1. 11. 1	0. 18. 8			
1669	1. 14. 6	1. 1. 3			
1670	1. 12. 5	1. 0. 4			
Mean price of these ten years	1. 18. 0. 6 10	1. 3. 0. 3 4 10			

Reigned	Peace or War	OBSERVATIONS.
Charles II.	Peace	The courts of wards and liveries were now abolished; in lieu thereof was granted to the king an excise on strong and small beers, &c. As the country gentlemen brewed for their own private use, they escaped the duty; so this burden fell chiefly on the trading towns and the industrious poor: thus the purchase of the entire freedom of the landowner was entailed on commerce. This tax produced at first, only £. 134,000 per annum. See A. D. 1604 and 1617.
	Peace	The current coin of England had for years past been so clipped as to lose half its value; one reason why provisions sold at greater rates.
	Peace	Milled money was now generally coined: an act passed allowing the exportation of wheat until it was in price £. 2. 8. 0. per quarter, but without a bounty. The amount of the revenue was now £. 1,100,000,
	War with Holland	From the late civil wars, the price of land was low, because the titles thereof were so very uncertain, that even renting them was scarcely safe, and the lands themselves in a bad condition. Trade begins to be a matter of general concern in Europe.
	War with Holland, France and Denmark	A great plague, of which died in London in one week 7165 persons. The companies of the city of London are ordered to lay in their provision of coals, between Lady-day and Michaelmas, for the benefit of the poor. The wheaten peck loaf now sold for £. 0. 2. 5 $\frac{1}{4}$. the white peck loaf for £. 0. 3. 7 $\frac{1}{4}$.
	War with Holland, France and Denmark	The importation of Irish cattle prohibited; by this Ireland at first was distressed; to remedy which, they applied themselves to their linen manufacture, and the poor of England lost a great part of their employment: the Irish trade had been very valuable to England, who received rude materials and provisions, which they repaid with manufactures and industry; the king reluctantly assented to this act. In this year the greatest part of the city of London was consumed by fire.
	War with Holland, France and Denmark	France enriches herself, and grows populous by encouraging arts, manufactures and commerce; this enabled their king to raise, and the people to pay, multiplied taxes. The wear of French silks, and the industry of the Irish, extirpate the linen manufacture of England, where before, there was scarcely a village but employed 3 or 4 looms.
	Peace	Mr. Brewer and 50 walloons arrive in England from Flanders, they instruct the English to make and dye fine woollen cloths, cheaper by 40 per cent. than they could before.
	Peace	The lord-mayor and court of aldermen of the city of London order an assay to be made of bread, of the best sort of wheaten meal usually brought to Queenhithe-market. The French king lays a duty of £. 25 per cent. upon all English woollen manufactured goods landed in France.
	Peace	The last remains of the king's demesnes were the fee-farm rents, the commons empower his majesty to sell them; they yielded £. 100,000. An act allowing the exportation of wheat when more in price than £. 2. 8. 0. per quarter, but a duty to be paid for this liberty.

Year	Wheat per quarter £. s. d.	Malt per quarter £. s. d.	Quarters of grain exported	Bounty paid £. s. d.	Quarters of grain imported
1671	1. 12. 6	0. 19. 9½			
1672	1. 11. 10	0. 17. 1			
1673	1. 16. 5	0. 18. 6			
1674	2. 13. 4½	1. 6. 5½			
1675	2. 10. 3½	1. 6. 5½			
1676	1. 9. 6½	1. 0. 2½			
1677	1. 12. 8	1. 1. 9½			
1678	2. 5. 10½	1. 2. 4			
1679	2. 6. 8	1. 0. 9			
1680	1. 15. 0	0. 17. 7			
Mean price of these ten years	1. 19. 5	1. 1. 1 ⁶ / ₁₀			

Reigned	Peace or War	OBSERVATIONS.
Charles II.	Peace	Bishop Burnet says, £ 8. per cent. the interest the king paid the bankers for the loan of money, was an extorsive interest.
	War with Holland	Interest of money 6, 8, and £. 10. per cent. The exchequer shut; £. 1,200,000 was there detained from the bankers, for which afterwards was paid £. 6. per cent. Public and private credit was stagnated, commerce in a manner ceased, and provisions grew dear: a remarkable drought in Europe: violent storms of hail destroyed the corn in Oxfordshire and Sommerfetshire; the king coins copper halfpence and farthings.
	War with Holland	
	Peace	A great dearth. Interest of money £. 8. per cent.
	Peace	Upon enquiry, the house of commons, find the French imported into England yearly, commodities to the value of £. 1,000,000 more than they exported.
	Peace	The French privateers seize the English merchant-ships in the channel; on complaint thereof, no redress could be obtained from the French court.
	Peace	While the powers in Europe were engaged in war, the neutrality observed by England greatly increased her commerce. The king borrowed £. 200,000 at £. 7. per cent.
	Peace	The French at this time were very high in their manufactures and trade. The importation of French commodities is prohibited by parliament for three years.
	Peace	
	Peace	

Year	Wheat per quarter £. s. d.	Malt per quarter £. s. d.	Quarters of grain exported	Bounty paid £. s. d.	Quarters of grain imported
1681	1. 16. 4	0. 19. 2			
1682	1. 14. 2½	1. 1. 9½			
1683	1. 11. 1½	1. 2. 2			
1684	1. 14. 2½	0. 19. 8½			
1685	1. 16. 4	1. 1. 9½			
1686	1. 6. 5½	0. 19. 9½			
1687	0. 19. 7	0. 18. 8			
1688	1. 15. 9½	0. 16. 5½			
1689	1. 3. 4	0. 15. 6			
1690	1. 7. 0	0. 15. 0½			
Mean price of these ten years	1. 10. 6¼ ⁸ / ₁₆	0. 19. 0 ⁴ / ₁₀			

Reigned	Peace or War	OBSERVATIONS.
Charles II.	Peace	
	Peace	
	Peace	A severe frost which lasted from November to the February following: the packets could not sail from England, France or Holland.
	Peace	The king at his death had by him 90,000 guineas.
James II.	Peace	Monmouth's rebellion in England, and Argyle's in Scotland, are both suppressed: the cruelties practised by Jefferies and Kirk, cause many people to forsake the country. The king's revenue £.2,550,000 per annum for life. The parliament of Scotland grants the king £.260,000 per annum for life.
	Peace	The current cash of the kingdom computed to be 14,000,000; at this time there were no bank-notes, and very little fictitious or paper money.
	Peace	By the persecution in France, England acquires many French protestant subjects, and with them new manufactures; 13,500 settle in the city and suburbs of London, and many more in other parts of the country. The clipping the current coin of the kingdom was a practice of many years standing.
	Peace	The prince of Orange lands in the west of England with an army of 14,000 men. Number of taxable houses in England and Wales 838,694. From the restoration to the revolution the shipping of England doubled.
William and Mary	War with France and in Ireland	National debt £. 1,540,925. An act passed granting the following bounties to export corn, £. 0. 5. 0. per quarter, when wheat is less than £. 2. 8. 0. per quarter, £. 0. 2. 6. for malt and barley when less than £. 1. 4. 0. per quarter, and £. 0. 3. 6. for rye when less than £. 1. 12. 0. per quarter: strong beer £. 0. 0. 8. per gallon. The current coin greatly clipped and debased.
	War with France and in Ireland	Land from 20 to 25 years purchase. Interest of Money £. 6. per cent. but the public funds much under par. An act passed empowering victuallers to sell their beers and ales at higher and reasonable prices.

Mean Price of the Necessaries of Life from the Year 1660, to the Harvest next after a Bounty was granted to export Corn. A. D. 1690.

Purchase of land	Rent of land per acre	Interest of money	Wheat per quarter	Malt per quarter	Sea-coals per chaldron	Hay per load
22 Years $\frac{1}{2}$		£ 7. 6. 6 per cent.	£.1 16. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	£.1. 1. 0 $\frac{1}{4}$.	£.1. 4. 0.	£.1. 12. 0.
Price of cattle	Price of fowls	Butchers meat per stone	Ale and beer per gallon	Linen and woollen cloths per yard	Butter and cheese per pound	Wages and labour per day
Horse £.5.10.0 An ox - 3. 6.0 A cow - 2.15.0 A sheep 0 11.0 A hog - 0.14.0 at London	A goose £.0.3.0 A turkey 0.4.0 A cock - 0.1.3 A hen - 0.1.3 A pigeon 0.0.2 in London	Beef and pork £.0. 1. 2. Veal and mutton £.0.1.4. in London	Strong £ 0.0.8 Small - 0.0.2 $\frac{1}{2}$ From the brewer £.0.16.0 per barrel	Woollen colours fine £.0. 18. 0. Scarlet ditto £.1. 2. 0.	Butter £.0. 0. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ Cheese £.0. 0. 2.	Labour £.0 0.10. A foot soldier £.0.0.5 A horseman £. - -

An impaired estate requires the hand of a prudent œconomist to search where the most pressing evils lie ; to remedy these, and then to introduce every frugal management, so that no part thereof be left useless or unprofitable : such principles put in practice, with humanity and good nature, will strengthen the whole, and the fabrick in time, will become sufficiently strong, not only to admit of useful conveniences and improvements, but at last to afford all the embellishments art bestows, where wealth and true power dwell : whether this was the conduct king Charles II. observed after his return, or whether his courtiers, more intent on private interest than the public good, would admit of such regulations, is not to our present purpose scrupulously to inquire. It is generally allowed, after a long civil war the public disorder is such, that many years are required with prudent management to restore the harmony necessary to every part of a state : some historians observe the time required to accomplish this is fifty years ; nothing like this appears, if we peruse the prices of grain and of provisions during this reign : the three first years undoubtedly is a term of scarcity ; but considering the spirit of the age, and the state of the coin, much less could not be expected : the pestilence, the conflagration of the metropolis, the unnecessary wars with Holland, the shutting up of the exchequer, the prohibition of Irish provisions, the neglect of the interests of England, and a partiality for the wares of France ; these circumstances, had they been unattended by the remaining influence of a civil war, appear almost sufficient to account for much greater prices in the necessaries of life, than at this time took place ; as such was not the case, no greater proof can possibly be given of the fertility of the land, which experience has shewn to be capable to counterbalance and overact these many complicated disasters.

Such a blessing inherent to these kingdoms, ought to be cherished and improved as far as it will admit, for the general benefit

benefit of the people on whom providence has bestowed so great a gift; but this neither was, nor could be the case for many years after this king had taken possession of the throne, occasioned by the circumstances which happened before and those during his reign. Therefore no long series of years unaccompanied by any remarkable inconveniences, and in which the full exertion of power, industry and encouragement have been applied to force the land to its utmost yield, can with any propriety be compared to these times, and be brought in argument to prove the justness of a measure, asserted, not proved, to be the means of a greater plenty. If we examine the reign of king James II. the average price of wheat during this, was no more than £. 1. 9. 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ per quarter; which if it shews any thing, it can be only this, that patience alone would have brought on a plenty and a cheapness of grain without any expence to the government; but we have reached the time when an extraordinary bounty given to export corn, even when at high prices, was thought to be not only of absolute necessity, but a public good.

SECTION

SECTION XI.

Year	Wheat per quarter £. s. d.	Malt per quarter £. s. d.	Quarters of grain exported qrs. bufs. s. d.	Bounty paid £. s. d.	Quarters of grain imported. qrs. bufs.
1691	1. 6. 5½	0. 13. 6			
1692	1. 16. 6	0. 18. 11½			
1693	2. 12. 8	1. 3. 4			
1694	2. 9. 9	1. 4. 10½			
1695	2. 1. 2	1. 4. 10½			
1696	2. 15. 2½	1. 1. 9½			
1697	2. 6. 8	1. 1. 9½	32855. 0 B. at 2. 6 51811. 0 M. at 2. 6 295. 3 Om. 2596. 4 R. at 3. 6 14698. 6 W. at 5. 0 102257. 2	4106. 17. 6 6476. 9. 0½ 454. 7. 9 3674. 13. 9 £. 14712. 8. 0½	B. — 211. 4 Om. — 1. 4 W. — 400. 0
Mean price of these seven years	2. 4. 0½ 6/7	1. 1. 3½ 4/7	32855. 0 B. at 2. 6 51811. 0 M. at 2. 6 295. 3 Om. 2596. 4 R. at 3. 6 14698. 6 W. at 5. 0 102257. 2	4106. 17. 6 6476. 3. 0½ 454. 7. 9 3674. 13. 9 £. 14712. 8. 0½	B. — 211. 4 Om. — 1. 4 W. — 400. 0 613. 0

N. B. In the columns of quantities of grain exported, and of quantities of grain imported, B. stands for Barley, M. for Malt, O. for Oats, Om. for Oat meal, R. for Rye, and W. for Wheat; at the bottom is the amount of the several species of grain exported, of the whole bounty paid, and the amount of the several species of grain imported.

Reigned	Peace or War.	OBSERVATIONS.																		
William and Mary.	War with France. Ireland subdued.	The custom of establishing funds of credit, for raising the supplies of government, at this time took place: it produced usurers, brokers, jobbers, &c. distinguished by the name of the monied interest.																		
	War with France.	Great rains in autumn; an earthquake was felt in England, and in most parts of Europe; in America, the island of Jamaica suffered prodigiously. Land-tax four shillings per pound. Interest of money £. 7. per cent.																		
	War with France.	A very wet summer; this unseasonable weather extended to France, where numbers perished for want, notwithstanding they imported much corn from Sweden and Denmark. In Kent turnips made a considerable share of the bread for the people.																		
William III.	War with France.	A very wet summer; an additional duty being laid on beer and ale, they rose in price. It was proved before the committee of the house of commons, that five pounds current silver specie was scarce worth forty shillings sterling, besides an infinite deal of iron, brass and copper, washed over or plated, which passed for money.																		
	War with France.	Many Scotch are driven into Ireland by the excessive price of corn. The silver coin was now so much debased and clipped, that one guinea is estimated equal to thirty shillings. The nation in general is alarmed at the circulation of artificial wealth; such as bank-notes, exchequer-tallies and government-security. Interest of money £. 8. per cent. bank-notes at £. 20. per cent. discount.																		
	War with France.	A very wet summer. A great want of money in specie, but this was soon remedied by the new coin coming out. No authentic account of corn exported was taken before the following year.																		
	War with France.	An excise of six-pence per bushel laid on malt: the audit books of Eaton-college take no notice of this duty in the price of malt. These accounts being intended to exhibit the true state of the corn-trade in England, £. 0. 3. 9. per quarter, on account of this duty, is included in the price of malt in the following tables.																		
		<table> <tr> <th>Mean quantity of corn exported in this period of seven years.</th><th>Mean of the whole bounty paid in this period of seven years.</th><th>Mean of the sums paid for such years in this period, when the bounty acted without controul.</th></tr> <tr> <td>Barley - - - 32855 - 0</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Malt - - - 51811 - 0</td><td>£. 14712. 8. 0½</td><td>£. 14712. 8. 0½</td></tr> <tr> <td>Oatmeal - - - 295 - 3</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Rye - - - 2596 - 4</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Wheat - - - 14698 - 6</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	Mean quantity of corn exported in this period of seven years.	Mean of the whole bounty paid in this period of seven years.	Mean of the sums paid for such years in this period, when the bounty acted without controul.	Barley - - - 32855 - 0			Malt - - - 51811 - 0	£. 14712. 8. 0½	£. 14712. 8. 0½	Oatmeal - - - 295 - 3			Rye - - - 2596 - 4			Wheat - - - 14698 - 6		
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Wheat - - - 14698 - 6																				

Mean Price of the Necessaries of Life from the Year 1690, to the first
Excise being laid on Malt, A. D. 1697, inclusive.

Purchase of land.	Rent of land per acre.	Interest of money.	Wheat per quarter.	Malt per quarter.	Sea coals per chaldron.	Hay per load.
		£. 7. 10. 0 per cent.	£. 2. 4. 0½	£. 1. 1. 3½		
Price of cat- tle.	Price of fowls.	Butchers meat per stone.	Ale and beer per gallon.	Linen and woollen cloths per yard.	Butter and cheese per pound.	Wages and labour per day.
			Strong £. 0. 0. 10 Small £. 0. 0. 3			

King James II. his superstition and bigotry impeded both his own and the designs of the enemies to civil and religious liberties : when the prince of Orange declared in favour of these, he had the ties of nature, the ties of interest, and the prejudices of a numerous people to wrestle with ; the many conspiracies formed against his person and measures, the reviling his memory immediately upon his death, the principles of most of the land-owners of that time, as delivered in history, put these facts beyond doubt : for the welfare of the great cause he had undertaken (when he became king of England) it was necessary to engage the affection of every class of his subjects : if by intending and acting well he could not obtain the hearts of the landed gentlemen jointly with parliament from out of the public treasure, procuring liberalities to be bestowed for what appeared to be their present private interests, were the only means left to engage them to second his designs, though in the three first years of his reign, corn was so cheap that no pretence from hence could be formed, yet wool unwrought was smuggled to the enemy, consequently pasture-land was thought to be in an over-proportion to tillage, and misapplied : to remedy this, it was proposed by granting a bounty for the exportation of corn, to find a sure means to dispose of the surplus grain a part of such pasture-land should be made to produce, and thereby to ascertain to the farmer an advantageous price for his harvest : as it is impossible to alter the customs and ideas of men without the prospect of gain, or change the nature of any business without expence to those engaged therein, as at this time it could not be conceived, that England should ever export such quantities of grain, as in these latter times we have seen, or that an over-proportion of arable land should ever take place, and thereby
double

double the prices of all other necessaries of life; and as it was and would be in the power of parliament to remedy any inconveniency consequential of this act, money being very scarce, and what there was of it so greatly debased and so much clipped, that within five years after in the house of commons it was proved that five pounds in silver specie was scarce worth forty shillings according to the standard; on all these accounts it was thought expedient to give a bounty of five shillings per quarter to export wheat, when of the then current money it was worth £. 2. 8. 0. per quarter or under, and for barley, malt and rye proportionable bounties, when they respectively were proportionable in price. This certainly in cheap times was giving £. 25. per cent. to buy the custom of the whole world, and bringing on the English corn-market so numerous a body of purchasers, as must constantly enhance the price of provisions to the natives of the country. The parliament in framing this act, could not otherwise but have regard to the circumstances of the time it was made in; they could measure the terms and limits of their bounty by no other scale, than that of the coin then current in the kingdom, and this they knew to be lessened in value of three parts out of five; however they were careful the difficulty the ill state of the coin laid them under, should be known to posterity, for the act begins, "Forasmuch as it has
 " been found by experience, that the exportation of corn and
 " grain into foreign parts, when the price thereof is *at a low*
 " *rate* in this kingdom, hath been of great advantage, not only
 " to the owners of land, but to the trade of this kingdom in
 " general, &c." Now £. 2. 8. 0. per quarter for wheat, £. 1. 12. 0. per quarter for rye, and £. 1. 4. 0. per quarter for barley, neither before this time, then, nor since, were, or have been, estimated *low rates*; but these prices of corn, fixed according to the then current base money, reduced to the standard coin, which was afterwards restored, will give the limited price for exporting wheat, nearly at £. 1. 0. 0. per quarter, for rye £. 0. 13. 4. per quarter, and for barley £. 0. 12. 0. per quarter; and these are such as answer the description of the act; so that all arguments drawn from the literal words, without a proper regard had to the circumstances, must be of as little value as the current money of the kingdom was when the act was made; for it must be observed, coin can be of value but in proportion to its weight and fineness, and this we have seen mankind has always had regard to, in exchanging provisions or any other commodity for it.

For eight or nine years after the act passed, very little corn was exported; wheat during this, was never under £. 1. 0. 0. per quarter, though five years under £. 2. 8. 0. per quarter; from the year 1692 to 1697, a long series of unseasonable weather occasioned this: public grainaries, which the kingdom had long been accustomed to, appeared to be of little utility when grain was dear, and encouragement was given to grow more
 corn

corn than the nation could be thought possibly to consume; the city of London and its companies no longer provided against a scarcity: thus from the very words of the act, and from the accustomed precautions being omitted, unless the interpretation here given to it is allowed, the act cannot appear consistent with itself, and the general conduct of the nation in consequence thereof must have been highly blameable.

It may be said, in 1663 an act passed allowing the exportation of wheat until it was £. 2. 8. 0. per quarter; but this, not only was without any bounty, but the current coin of the kingdom then was equally in as bad condition as in the year 1689; so that a like bad measure of value existing at both times, when the honourable house of commons had the exportation of corn under consideration, the prices they had occasion to measure or limit to, must be the same; when the circumstances of the time the act was made in came to be forgot, and its intent mistaken, giving a large bounty to export corn when at high prices, joined to a total neglect of making any provision against times of scarcity, gave a fair opportunity to monopolists to make their own terms.

The Dutch, ever attentive to their interests, soon found on what easy conditions their distilleries might be maintained, by purchasing what was termed English malt: the act had not defined or described malt, so that barley soaked in water, made to shoot long spires and longer roots, after for form sake it had been presented to the fire, occupied a space many times more than originally it did; exported in this state, it claimed the bounty as many times repeated under the borrowed appellation of malt, not only when barlies exported according to the literal sense of the act appeared intitled to a bounty, but when they were not, and even when they might reach such prices as not to be purchaseable for English uses; the Dutch still rectified their defects, and these foreigners found an advantage to return to Britain her corn manufactured into spirits and geneva, even at the hazard of being seized for smuggling. This sort of malt-making encouraged, introduced into England the custom of spoiling of barley, under pretence of converting it into malt, to the disreputation of some counties bordering the sea, and as hereafter will be seen to much worse purposes. To shew the generosity of government has in this article been greatly abused and imposed upon, it becomes necessary to define malt; the difference between this and what has falsely assumed its name is palpable.

Barley, sufficiently impregnated with water, then made into a heap, will germinate; this act with propriety should be suffered no farther, than when the acrospire reaches the internal limits of the outward skin of the grain; gradually it is suffered to dry on the floors, then placed upon the kiln, until by heat the germinating power the barley had, is destroyed; thus manufactured by a slow and regular process, and screened from the dust, as required by

act of parliament, its volume will seldom exceed that of the barley it was made with, more than one twentieth part : barley, not dried until the germinating power is thereby destroyed past recovery, still remains barley under any form soever ; barley sprouted and dried, so as the germinating power is wholly removed, from whence it is in a more preservative state, is alone intitled to the appellation of malt.

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SECTION

SECTION XII.

Year	Wheat per quarter. £. s. d.	Malt per quarter. £. s. d.	Quarters of grain exported. qrs. bush. s. d.	Bounty paid. £. s. d.	Quarters of grain imported. qrs. bush.
1698	2. 13. 2	1. 8. 8	30989. 6 B. at 2. 6 46585. 6 M. at 2. 6 172. 4 O. 1343. 2 R. at 3. 6 6886. 0 W. at 5. 0 85977. 2	3873. 14. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ 5823. 4. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ 235. 1. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ 1721. 10. 0 11653. 10. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	B. — 150 0 O. — 520. 0 R. — 3622. 2 W. — 1689. 0
1699	2. 9. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	1. 14. 4	75. 0 B. at 2. 6 1511. 3 M. at 2. 6 301. 6 O. 405. 0 R. at 3. 6 557. 2 W. at 5. 0 2850. 3	9. 7. 6 188. 18. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ 70. 17. 6 139. 6. 3 408. 9. 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	O. — 1280. 4 Om. — 0. 5 R. — 350. 0 W. — 486. 3
1700	1. 11. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	1. 8. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	25896. 5 B. at 2. 6 37571. 4 M. at 2. 6 391. 1 O. 27231. 0 R. at 3. 6 49056. 5 W. at 5. 0 140146. 7	3237. 1. 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ 4696. 8. 9 4765. 8. 6 12264. 3. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ 24963. 1. 11 $\frac{1}{4}$	O. — 234. 4 R. — 0. 4 W. — 4. 6
1701	1. 9. 4	1. 2. 5	21953. 2 B. at 2. 6 50447. 1 M. at 2. 6 285. 5 O. 43917. 0 R. at 3. 6 98323. 7 W. at 5. 0 214926. 7	2744. 3. 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ 6305. 17. 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ 7685. 9. 6 24580. 19. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ 41316. 9. 9 $\frac{3}{4}$	O. — 20. 4 W. — 1. 1
1702	1. 2. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	1. 5. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	16280. 1 B. at 2. 6 71856. 6 M. at 2. 6 89. 4 O. 51710. 2 R. at 3. 6 90230. 4 W. at 5. 0 230166. 1	2035. 0. 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ 8982. 1. 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ 9049. 5. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 2257. 12. 6 42624. 0. 6 $\frac{3}{4}$	O. — 1. 0
1703	1. 8. 0	1. 1. 11	71523. 7 B. at 2. 6 123291. 2 M. at 2. 6 159. 2 O. 58438. 4 R. at 3. 6 106615. 4 W. at 5. 0 360028. 3	8940. 9. 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ 15411. 8. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ 10226. 14. 9 26653. 17. 6 61232. 10. 0 $\frac{3}{4}$	Om. — 2. 4 W. — 50. 0
1704	1. 16. 2	1. 5. 6	30729. 4 B. at 2. 6 102873. 7 M. at 2. 6 219. 7 O. 29284. 7 R. at 3. 6 90313. 5 W. at 5. 0 253421. 6	3841. 3. 9 12859. 4. 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ 5124. 17. 0 $\frac{3}{4}$ 22578. 8. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ 44403. 13. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	W. — 1. 6
1705	1. 3. 4	1. 3. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	21386. 6 B. at 2. 6 137396. 2 M. at 2. 6 100. 4 O. 24059. 4 R. at 3. 6 96185. 1 W. at 5. 0 279128. 1	2673. 6. 10 17174. 10. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 4210. 8. 3 24046. 5. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 48104. 11. 4	
1706	1. 0. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1. 0. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	10221. 3 B. at 2. 6 141084. 4 M. at 2. 6 62. 2 O. 49892. 2 R. at 2. 6 188332. 3 W. at 5. 0 389592. 6	1277. 13. 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ 17635. 11. 3 8731. 2. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 47683. 1. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 74727. 9. 5 $\frac{1}{4}$	O. — 98. 4 Om. — 480. 4 W. — 77. 1
Mean price of these nine years.	1. 12. 8. $\frac{4}{9}$	1. 5. 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{7}{9}$	229056. 2 B. at 2. 6 712618. 3 M. at 2. 6 1782. 3 O. 285981. 5 R. at 3. 6 726500. 7 W. at 5. 0 1955939. 4	28682. 0. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 89077. 5. 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ 50099. 5. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ 181625. 4. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ 349433. 16. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	B. — 150. 0 O. — 2155. 0 R. — 3972. 6 W. — 2310. 1 Om. — 483. 5 9071 4.

N. B. The first bounty granted to export Oats was in 1706, but it did not take place until the year following.

Reigned	Peace or War.	OBSERVATIONS.										
William III.	Peace.	A very wet summer. The peace, and dearnefs of corn in England, facilitate it to the French to seduce our manufacturers; with these they establish a woollen manufacture for cloths and woollen goods in Picardy. Great complaints of the dearnefs of provisions and decay of trade.										
	Peace.	A wet summer. These cold and wet seasons lasted more than seven years; the dismal effects of famine was felt in most parts of Europe. Exportation of corn prohibited for nine months.										
	Peace.	An act passed annulling the customs paid for exporting corn, when wheat should be more in price than £. 2. 8. 0. per quarter; and another ascertaining the identity of victuallers measures. Plenty of French money appeared this year in England. No bounty allowed for about ten months. The French in Languedoc now manufactured 3000 woollen cloths yearly.										
	Peace.	Government Interest £. 6. per cent. Sea-coals £. 1. 4. 0 per chaldron.										
Anne.	War with France and Spain.	The tories revile the late king's memory. The queen recommends to parliament the preventing the exportation of unwrought wool.										
	War with France and Spain.	A most dreadful storm of wind November 26, after a very wet summer.										
	War with France and Spain.											
	War with France and Spain.	Public credit flourishes both at home and abroad. A very dry summer.										
	War with France and Spain.	An act passed allowing a bounty for the exportation of oats, when they do not exceed £. 0. 15. 0. per quarter, and of oat-meal and wheat-malt. Historians take notice, that about this time the kingdom was blessed with plenty; that the people chearfully contributed to the expence of the war. It may be observed, no great quantities of corn were exported from 1703 to 1708.										
<table> <tr> <td>Mean quantities of corn exported in this period of 9 years.</td><td>Mean of the whole bounty paid in this period of 9 years.</td><td>Mean of the sum paid in this period for such years when the bounty acted without controul 7 years.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Barley - - - - 25450. - 6</td><td rowspan="5">£. 38826. 16. 11.</td><td rowspan="5">£. 46295. 14. 4½.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Malt - - - - 79179. - 6</td></tr> <tr> <td>Oatmeal - - - - 198. - 0</td></tr> <tr> <td>Rye - - - - 31775. - 6</td></tr> <tr> <td>Wheat - - - - 80722. - 2</td></tr> </table>			Mean quantities of corn exported in this period of 9 years.	Mean of the whole bounty paid in this period of 9 years.	Mean of the sum paid in this period for such years when the bounty acted without controul 7 years.	Barley - - - - 25450. - 6	£. 38826. 16. 11.	£. 46295. 14. 4½.	Malt - - - - 79179. - 6	Oatmeal - - - - 198. - 0	Rye - - - - 31775. - 6	Wheat - - - - 80722. - 2
Mean quantities of corn exported in this period of 9 years.	Mean of the whole bounty paid in this period of 9 years.	Mean of the sum paid in this period for such years when the bounty acted without controul 7 years.										
Barley - - - - 25450. - 6	£. 38826. 16. 11.	£. 46295. 14. 4½.										
Malt - - - - 79179. - 6												
Oatmeal - - - - 198. - 0												
Rye - - - - 31775. - 6												
Wheat - - - - 80722. - 2												

Mean Price of the Necessaries of Life from the Year 1697, to the Extension of the Bounty granted to export Corn. A. D. 1706.

Purchase of land.	Rent of land per acre.	Interest of money.	Wheat per quarter.	Malt per quarter.	Sea-coals per chaldron.	Hay per load.
		£.6. 0. 0 per cent.	£.1 12. 8	£.1. 5. 8 $\frac{1}{4}$.	£.1. 4. 0.	
Price of cattle.	Price of fowls.	Butchers meat per stone.	Ale and beer per gallon.	Linen and woollen cloths per yard.	Butter and cheese per pound.	Wages and labour per day.
			Strong £.0.0.10 Small - 0.0.3			

With regard to bread-corn ; of these nine years, three may be said to be dear, three moderate, and three cheap ; impartiality requires, that neither of these incidents be attributed to the effects of exportation : malt in this term remarkably exceeds its proportion in price compared to wheat, even when the duty is deducted ; this must have proceeded from the quantities of barley and malt sent to Holland. It is to be believed the government now thought too great a quantity of land was applied to the growing of wheat, as they granted a large bounty for the exportation of oats ; a measure which as yet has been very far from answering the purpose intended : the gratuity given for wheat is so much and extends to so great a latitude, and that for barley and malt so undistinctly laid, that until these are changed, or that they overact themselves, the farmer will pay but little attention to the growing of any other specie of grain. The years 1702, 1705, and 1706, could not be gainful times with the land-holder ; thus, the experiment of the bounty in his behalf was here disappointed. It is as necessary that the man who tills the land should be equitably rewarded, as it is that the trader should have his just profits ; a bounty granted to export corn, varied in proportion to the prices of grain, and stopped where it becomes difficult for the industrious poor to reach their bread, would alleviate many distresses and levy many difficulties.

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SECTION

SECTION XIII.

Year	Wheat per quarter. £. s. d.	Malt per quarter. £. s. d.	Quarters of grain exported. qrs. bu/b. s. d.	Bounty paid. £. s. d.	Quarters of grain imported qrs. b.
1691	1. 6. 5½	0. 13. 6			
1692	1. 16. 6	0. 18. 11½			
1693	2. 12. 8	1. 3. 4			
1694	2. 9. 9	1. 4. 10½			
1695	2. 1. 2	1. 4. 10½			
1696	2. 15. 2½	1. 1. 9½			
1697	2. 6. 8	1. 1. 9½	32855. 0 B. at 2. 6 51811. 5 M. at 2. 6 295. 3 O. 2596. 4 R. at 3. 6 14698. 6 W. at 5. 0 102257. 2	4106. 17. 6 6476. 9. 0½ 454. 7. 9 3674. 13. 9 14712. 8. 0½	B. — 211. 4 Om. — 1. 4 W. — 400. 0
1698	2. 13. 2	1. 8. 8	30989. 6 B. at 2. 6 46585. 6 M. at 2. 6 172. 4 O. 1343. 2 R. at 3. 6 6836. 0 W. at 5. 0 85977. 2	3873. 14. 4½ 5823. 4. 4½ 235. 1. 4½ 1721. 10. 0 11653. 10. 1½	B. — 150. 0 O. — 520. 0 R. — 3622. 2 W. — 1689. 5
1699	2. 9. 9½	1. 14. 4	75. 0 B. at 2. 6 1511. 3 M. at 2. 6 301. 6 O. 405. 0 R. at 3. 6 557. 2 W. at 5. 0 2850. 3	9. 7. 6 188. 18. 5½ 70. 17. 6 139. 6. 3 408. 9. 8½	O. — 1280. 4 Om. — 0. 5 R. — 350. 0 W. — 486. 3
1700	1. 11. 1½	1. 8. 1½	25896. 5 B. at 2. 6 37571. 4 M. at 2. 6 391. 1 O. 27231. 0 R. at 3. 6 49056. 5 W. at 5. 0 140146. 7	3237. 1. 6½ 4696. 8. 9 4765. 8. 6 12264. 3. 1½ 24963. 1. 11¼	O. — 234. 4 R. — 0. 4 W. — 4. 6
Mean price of these ten years.	2. 4. 3	1. 4. 0¼ 2 10	89816. 3 B. at 2. 6 137480. 2 M. at 2. 6 1160. 6 O. 31575. 6 R. at 3. 6 71198. 5 W. at 5. 0 331231. 6	11227. 0. 11½ 17185. 0. 7½ 5525. 15. 1½ 17799. 13. 1½ 51737. 9. 9¼	B. — 361. 4 O. — 2035. 0 R. — 3972. 6 W. — 2580. 1 Om. — 2. 1 8951. 4

Reigned	Peace or War.	OBSERVATIONS.
William and Mary.	War with France. Ireland subdued.	The custom of establishing funds of credit, for raising the supplies of government, at this time took place: it produced usurers, brokers, jobbers, &c. distinguished by the name of the monied interest.
	War with France.	Great rains in autumn; an earthquake was felt in England, and in most parts of Europe; in America, the island of Jamaica suffered prodigiously. Land-tax four shillings per pound. Interest of money £. 7. per cent.
	War with France.	A very wet summer; this unseasonable weather extended to France, where numbers perished for want, notwithstanding they imported much corn from Sweden and Denmark. In Kent turnips made a considerable share of the bread.
William III.	War with France.	A very wet summer; an additional duty being laid on beer and ale, they rose in price. It was proved before the committee of the house of commons, that five pounds current silver specie was scarce worth forty shillings sterling, besides an infinite deal of iron, brass and copper, washed over or plated, which passed for money.
	War with France.	Many of the Scotch are driven into Ireland by the excessive price of corn. The silver coin was now so much debased and clipped, that one guinea was equal to 30 shillings current coin. The nation in general was alarmed at the circulation of artificial wealth; such as bank-notes, exchequer-tallies, and government security. Interest of money £. 8. per Ct. bank-notes £. 20. per Ct. discount.
	War with France.	A very wet summer. A great want of money in specie, but this was soon remedied by the new coin coming out. No authentic account of corn exported was taken before this year.
	War with France.	An excise of six-pence per bushel laid on malt: the audit books of Eaton-college take no notice of this duty in their prices of malt. These accounts being intended to exhibit the true state of the corn-trade of England, £. 0. 3. 9. per quarter, on account of this duty, is included in the prices of malt in the following tables.
	Peace.	A very wet summer. The peace, and dearth of corn in England, facilitate it to the French to seduce our manufacturers; with these they establish a woollen manufacture for cloths and woollen goods in Picardy. Great complaints are made of the dearth of provisions and decay of trade.
	Peace.	A wet summer. These cold and wet seasons lasted more than seven years; the dismal effects of famine were felt in most parts of Europe. Exportation of corn prohibited for nine months.
	Peace.	An act passed annulling the customs paid for exporting corn, when wheat should be more in price than £. 2. 8. 0. per quarter; and another ascertaining the identity of victuallers measures. Plenty of French money appeared this year in England. No bounty allowed for about ten months.
Mean quantities of corn exported in these four years.		Mean of the whole bounty paid in these four years.
Barley	22454 - 1	£. 12934. 7. 5½.
Malt	34370 - 0	
Oatmeal	290 - 1	
Rye	7893 - 7	
Wheat	17799 - 5	
		Mean of the sum paid in these four years when the bounty acted without controul.
		£. 17109. 13. 4½.

Year	Wheat per quarter. £. s. d.	Malt per quarter. £. s. d.	Quarters of grain exported. qrs. bush. s. d.	Bounty paid. £. s. d.	Quarters of grain imported. qrs. b.
1701	1. 9. 4	1. 2. 5	21953. 2 B. at 2. 6 50447. 1 M. at 2. 6 285. 5 O. 43917. 0 R. at 3. 6 98323. 7 W. at 5. 0 214926. 0	2744. 3. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ 6305. 17. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ 7685. 9. 6 24580. 19. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ 41316. 9. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	O. — 20. 4 W. — 1. 1
1702	1. 2. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	1. 5. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	16280. 1 B. at 2. 6 71856. 6 M. at 2. 6 89. 4 O. 51710. 2 R. at 3. 6 90230. 4 W. at 5. 0 230166. 1	2035. 0. 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ 8982. 1. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 9049. 5. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 22557. 12. 6 42624. 0. 6 $\frac{1}{4}$	O. — 1. 0
1703	1. 8. 0	1. 1. 11	71523. 7 B. at 2. 6 123291. 2 M. at 2. 6 159. 2 O. 58438. 4 R. at 3. 6 106615. 4 W. at 5. 0 360028. 3	8940. 9. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ 15411. 8. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ 10226. 14. 9 26653. 17. 6 61232. 10. 0 $\frac{3}{4}$	Om. — 2. 4 W. — 50. 0
1704	1. 16. 2	1. 5. 6	30729. 4 B. at 2. 6 102873. 7 M. at 2. 6 219. 7 O. 29284. 7 R. at 3. 6 90313. 5 W. at 5. 0 253421. 6.	3841. 3. 9 12859. 4. 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ 5124. 17. 0 $\frac{3}{4}$ 22578. 8. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ 44403. 13. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	W. — 1. 6
1705	1. 3. 4	1. 3. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	21386. 6 B. at 2. 6 137396. 2 M. at 2. 6 100. 4 O. 24059. 4 R. at 3. 6 96185. 1 W. at 5. 0 279128. 1	2673. 6. 10 17174. 10. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 4210. 8. 3 24046. 5. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 48104. 11. 4	
1706	1. 0. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1. 0. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	10221. 3 B. at 2. 6 141084. 4 M. at 2. 6 62. 2 O. 49892. 2 R. at 3. 6 188332. 3 W. at 5. 0 389592. 6	1277. 13. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ 17635. 11. 3 8731. 2. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 47083. 1. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 74727. 9. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	O. — 98. 4 Om. — 480. 4 W. — 77. 1
1707	1. 1. 6	1. 1. 11	4771. 3 B. at 2. 6 111153. 1 M. at 2. 6 103. 7 O. at 2. 6 34032. 0 R. at 3. 6 74155. 1 W. at 5. 0 224215. 4	596. 8. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ 13894. 2. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ 12. 19. 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ 5955. 12. 0 18538. 15. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 38997. 18. 6 $\frac{3}{4}$	O. — 12. 0
1708	1. 12. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1. 5. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	29937. 6 B. at 2. 6 97789. 3 M. at 2. 6 67. 6 O. at 2. 6 4720. 3 R. at 3. 6 83406. 3 W. at 5. 0 215921. 5	3742. 4. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ 12223. 13. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ 8. 9. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ 826. 1. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ 20851. 11. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 37652. 6. 4 $\frac{1}{4}$	O. — 70. 4 W. — 86. 4
1709	2. 11. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	1. 9. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	40512. 6 B. at 2. 6 139934. 4 M. at 2. 6 37. 5 O. at 2. 6 166512. 5 R. at 3. 6 169679. 7 W. at 5. 0 516677. 3	5064. 1. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 17491. 16. 3 4. 14. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ 29139. 14. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 42419. 19. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ 94120. 6. 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	B. — 606. 0 O. — 1. 0 W. — 1552. 3
1710	3. 0. 8	1. 11. 9	5744. 5 B. at 2. 6 79530. 0 M. at 2. 6 125. 1 O. at 2. 6 12215. 6 R. at 3. 6 13924. 1 W. at 5. 0 111539. 5	718. 1. 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ 9941. 5. 0 15. 12. 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ 2137. 15. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ 3481. 0. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 16293. 15. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	B. — 576. 0 O. — 139. 3 Om. — 113. 3 R. — 0. 2 W. — 400. 0
Mean price of these ten years.	1. 12. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{4}{10}$	1. 4. 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{8}{10}$	253061. 3 B. at 2. 6 1055356. 6 M. at 2. 6 1251. 3 O. at 2. 6 474783. 1 R. at 3. 6 1011166. 4 W. at 5. 0 2795619. 1	31632. 13. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ 131919. 11. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 49. 11. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ 83087. 0. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ 252791. 12. 6 499472. 14. 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	B. — 1182. 0 O. — 342. 7 R. — 0. 2 W. — 2168. 7 Om. — 596. 3 4290. 3

Reigned	Peace or War.	OBSERVATIONS.
William III.	Peace.	Government Interest £. 6. per cent. Sea-coals £. 1. 4. 0 per chaldron The current cash of the kingdom computed to be £. 12.000 000.
Anne.	War with France and Spain.	The Tories revile the late king's memory. The queen recommends to parliament the preventing the exportation of unwrought wool.
	War with France and Spain.	A most dreadful storm of wind November 26. The spray of the sea was blown full 20 miles; the grapes on the vines, the grass in the fields, and the twigs of trees in gardens tasted salt. A very wet summer.
	War with France and Spain.	
	War with France and Spain.	Public credit flourishes both at home and abroad.
	War with France and Spain.	An act passed allowing a bounty of £. 0. 2. 6. for exporting of oats, when they do not exceed £. 0. 15. 0. per quarter, and also encouraging the exportation of oat-meal and wheat malt. Historians take notice, that about this time the kingdom was blessed with plenty; that the people cheerfully contributed to the expence of the war. It may be observed, no great quantities of corn were exported from 1703 to 1708.
	War with France and Spain.	The decay of trade now complained of, was attributed to want of cruizers and convoys. July 8th was excessive hot and suffocating, by reason there was no wind: divers persons died in their harvest work. It still retains the name of the Hot Tuesday. Freehold land at 20 years purchase.
	War with France and Spain.	A hard frost, which brought on a prodigious scarcity of provisions, more in France than in England. In August there was so great a swarm of flies they covered many streets in London. 12000 Palatines arrive in England. In general the summer was cold and wet.
	War with France and Spain.	The queen in her speech to parliament complains of corn being exported at such high prices as distress the poor. Exportation prohibited for one year. There fell this year rain to the depth of 26 inches $\frac{1}{2}$: I think the mean depth of rain falling in England is 19 Inches $\frac{1}{2}$.
	War with France and Spain.	The importation of French wines is permitted in neutral bottoms. Exportation of corn prohibited for one year.
Mean quantity of each specie of grain exported in this period of 10 years.		Mean of the whole bounty paid in this period of 10 years.
Barley - - - - 25306. - 1		£. 49948. 1. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$.
Malt - - - - 105535. - 5		
Oatmeal - - - - 125. - 1		
Rye - - - - 47478. - 2		
Wheat - - - - 101116. - 5		
		Mean of the sums paid in this period for such years when the bounty acted without controul.
		£. 53687. 8. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Year	Wheat per quarter. £. s. d.	Malt per quarter. £. s. d.	Quarters of grain exported. qrs. bu/b. s. d.	Bounty paid. £. s. d.	Quarters of grain imported qrs. b.
1711	2. 2. 0	1. 11. 3	8412. 6 B. at 2. 6 139975. 7 M. at 2. 6 321. 4 O. at 2. 6 37957. 4 R. at 3. 6 76949. 0 W. at 5. 0 263616. 5	1051. 11. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 17496. 19. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ 40. 3. 9 6642. 11. 3 19217. 5. 0 44468. 11. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	
1712	1. 16. 0	1. 7. 7	19838. 5 B. at 2. 6 191624. 5 M. at 2. 6 303. 5 O. at 2. 6 17735. 3 R. at 3. 6 145191. 0 W. at 5. 0 374693. 2	2479. 16. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ 23953. 1. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ 37. 19. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ 3103. 13. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ 36297. 15. 0 65872. 6. 0	
1713	1. 19. 8	1. 4. 4	52542. 0 B. at 2. 6 217975. 7 M. at 2. 6 1376. 3 O. at 2. 6 38625. 7 R. at 3. 6 176227. 0 W. at 5. 0 486747. 1	6567. 15. 0 27246. 19. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ 172. 0. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ 6759. 10. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ 44056. 15. 0 84803. 1. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	
1714	1. 19. 2	1. 6. 7	18579. 5 B. at 2. 6 220274. 7 M. at 2. 6 129. 0 O. at 2. 6 20445. 0 R. at 3. 6 174821. 0 W. at 5. 0 434259. 4	2322. 9. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ 27534. 7. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ 16. 2. 6 3579. 12. 6 43705. 5. 0 77157. 16. 3	O. — 21. 0 W. — 15. 7
1715	1. 13. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	1. 7. 7	5080. 1 B. at 2. 6 103365. 1 M. at 2. 6 303. 5 O. at 2. 6 31161. 2 R. at 3. 6 166490. 2 W. at 5. 0 306400. 3	635. 0. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ 12920. 12. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ 37. 19. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ 5453. 4. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ 41622. 11. 3 60669. 7. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	W. — 0. 4
1716	1. 17. 4	1. 5. 6	14857. 0 B. at 2. 6 226617. 0 M. at 2. 6 719. 6 O. at 2. 6 40123. 1 R. at 3. 6 74026. 1 W. at 5. 0 357243. 0	1857. 2. 6 28327. 2. 6 89. 19. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ 7021. 10. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ 18731. 10. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 56027. 5. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	
1717	1. 15. 6	1. 3. 7	18435. 7 B. at 2. 6 251083. 1 M. at 2. 6 404. 1 O. at 2. 6 23031. 6 R. at 3. 6 22953. 7 W. at 5. 0 315908. 6	2304. 9. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ 31385. 7. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ 50. 10. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ 4030. 11. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ 5738. 9. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ 43509. 8. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	O. — 62. 0
1718	1. 10. 2	1. 3. 0	71139. 7 B. at 2. 6 303133. 3 M. at 2. 6 868. 5 O. at 2. 6 40416. 6 R. at 3. 6 71800. 0 W. at 5. 0 496358. 5	8892. 9. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ 37891. 13. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ 108. 11. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ 8647. 18. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 17950. 0. 0 73490. 13. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	O. — 21. 2
1719	1. 7. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1. 4. 6	9649. 3 B. at 2. 6 357499. 1 M. at 2. 6 219. 3 O. at 2. 6 45502. 2 R. at 3. 6 127762. 4 W. at 5. 0 540632. 5	1206. 3. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ 44687. 7. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ 27. 8. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ 7962. 17. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 31940. 12. 6 85824. 10. 0 $\frac{3}{4}$	O. — 300. 0 W. — 20. 1
1720	1. 8. 10	1. 8. 2	4505. 6 B. at 2. 6 253509. 6 M. at 2. 6 3471. 4 O. at 2. 6 49241. 3 R. at 3. 6 83084. 2 W. at 5. 0 393812. 5	563. 4. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ 31688. 14. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ 433. 18. 9 8617. 4. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ 20771. 1. 3 62074. 3. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	B. — 252. 0 O. — 2. 0
Mean price of these ten years	1. 14. 11. 0 $\frac{8}{10}$	1. 6. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	223041. 0 B. at 2. 6 2265058. 6 M. at 2. 6 8117. 4 O. at 2. 6 353250. 2 R. at 3. 6 1120205. 0 W. at 5. 0 3969672. 4	27880. 2. 6 283132. 6. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 1014. 13. 9 61818. 15. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 280051. 5. 0 653897. 4. 0	B. — 252. 0 O. — 406. 2 W. — 36. 4 694. 6

Reigned	Peace or War.	OBSERVATIONS.										
Anne.	War with France and Spain.	The whole duty on strong beer being now £. 0. 5. 0. per barrel, and on small beer £. 0. 1. 4. per barrel; the brewer sold his strong from £. 1. 3. 0. to £. 1. 10. 0. per barrel, and his small from £. 0. 7. 0. to £. 0. 12. 0. per barrel. A Duty laid on hops of one penny per pound.										
	War with France and Spain.											
	Peace.											
George I.	Peace.	Lawful interest £ 5. per cent. A very dry season. In this year there fell less than eleven inches and one fifth of rain. National debt about £40,000,000.										
	Civil war.	A rebellion in England and Scotland. A severe frost from the latter of November to February the 9th following.										
	Peace.	A long and dry summer.										
	Peace.	Interest of money £. 5. per cent.										
	War with Spain.	A remarkable hot summer. English wool £. 1. 1. 0. per tod.										
	War with Spain.	A faint attempt in favour of the pretender. English wool £. 1. 0. 0. per tod.										
	War with Spain.	The South-sea bubble, and many others, which ingrossed almost the whole riches of the nation, beside much from other states.										
<table> <tr> <td>Mean quantity of corn exported in this period of ten years.</td> <td>Mean of the whole bounty paid in this period of ten years.</td> <td>Mean of the Sum paid in this period for such years when the bounty acted without controul.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Barley - - - - - 22304. 1</td> <td rowspan="5">£. 65389. 12. 4½.</td> <td rowspan="5">£. 65389. 12. 4½.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Malt - - - - - 226505. 7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Oatmeal - - - - - 811. 6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rye - - - - - 35325. 0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wheat - - - - - 112020. 4</td> </tr> </table>			Mean quantity of corn exported in this period of ten years.	Mean of the whole bounty paid in this period of ten years.	Mean of the Sum paid in this period for such years when the bounty acted without controul.	Barley - - - - - 22304. 1	£. 65389. 12. 4½.	£. 65389. 12. 4½.	Malt - - - - - 226505. 7	Oatmeal - - - - - 811. 6	Rye - - - - - 35325. 0	Wheat - - - - - 112020. 4
Mean quantity of corn exported in this period of ten years.	Mean of the whole bounty paid in this period of ten years.	Mean of the Sum paid in this period for such years when the bounty acted without controul.										
Barley - - - - - 22304. 1	£. 65389. 12. 4½.	£. 65389. 12. 4½.										
Malt - - - - - 226505. 7												
Oatmeal - - - - - 811. 6												
Rye - - - - - 35325. 0												
Wheat - - - - - 112020. 4												

Year	Wheat per quarter. £. s. d.	Malt per quarter. £. s. d.	Quarters of grain exported.. qrs. bu. s. d.	Bounty paid. £. s. d.	Quarters of grain imported qrs. b.
1721	1. 9. 2	1. 5. 9	11608. 3 B. at 2. 6 338942. 6 M. at 2. 6 577. 7 O. at 2. 6 69697. 5 R. at 3. 6 81612. 3 W. at 5. 0 502459. 0	1451. 0. 11 1/2 42367. 16. 10 1/2 72. 4. 8 1/2 12197. 1. 8 20318. 1. 1 1/2 76. 96. 6. 0 1/2	B. — 445. 0
1722	1. 8. 0	1. 1. 4 1/2	7528. 7 B. at 2. 6 366728. 2 M. at 2. 6 34. 4 O. at 2. 6 42479. 0 R. at 3. 6 17880. 3 W. at 5. 0 626041. 0	4691. 2. 2 1/2 45841. 0. 7 1/2 40. 11. 3 7451. 6. 6 41720. 1. 10 1/2 102744. 2. 5 1/2	
1723	1. 7. 0	1. 2. 2	45789. 6 B. at 2. 6 305063. 5 M. at 2. 6 541. 5 O. at 2. 6 12737. 6 R. at 3. 6 157719. 6 W. at 5. 0 621852. 4	5723. 14. 4 1/2 38131. 19. 0 1/2 67. 14. 0 1/2 229. 2. 1 1/2 19420. 18. 9 5503. 8. 4	O. — 112. 2
1724	1. 8. 10	1. 7. 1	10258. 5 B. at 2. 6 241895. 0 M. at 2. 6 516. 4 O. at 2. 6 25441. 4 R. at 3. 6 45864. 6 W. at 5. 0 522016. 3	1287. 6. 6 30236. 17. 6 64. 11. 3 4102. 5. 3 6146. 3. 9 97157. 4. 3	O. — 616. 0. 3 W. — 148. 2
1725	1. 17. 8 1/2	1. 5. 6 1/2	13782. 6 B. at 2. 6 294025. 1 M. at 2. 6 1447. 4 O. at 2. 6 20539. 5 R. at 3. 6 204417. 3 W. at 5. 0 534008. 3	1722. 16. 10 1/2 36753. 2. 0 1/2 180. 18. 9 394. 8. 8 1/2 513. 6. 10 1/2 9334. 14. 0	O. — 2152. 4 R. — 0. 4 W. — 12. 2
1726	1. 15. 9 1/2	1. 5. 6 1/2	20017. 1 B. at 2. 6 335525. 5 M. at 2. 6 1412. 6 O. at 2. 6 18835. 2 R. at 3. 6 112183. 3 W. at 5. 0 518374. 1	2502. 2. 0 1/2 41990. 14. 0 1/2 176. 11. 10 1/2 3296. 3. 4 1/2 35545. 10. 1 1/2 83511. 9. 0	O. — 20. 0
1727	1. 12. 8	1. 5. 6 1/2	8688. 4 B. at 2. 6 241428. 4 M. at 2. 6 2204. 7 O. at 2. 6 9169. 3 R. at 3. 6 30311. 3 W. at 5. 0 291806. 5	1086. 1. 3 30178. 11. 3 27. 12. 2 1/2 1604. 12. 9 1/2 7578. 16. 10 1/2 4073. 14. 4 1/2	B. — 100. 0 O. — 15. 6
1728	2. 2. 5	1. 8. 7 1/2	198. 2 B. at 2. 6 195340. 6 M. at 2. 6 1383. 2 O. at 2. 6 13. 5 R. at 3. 6 3817. 0 W. at 5. 0 200752. 7	24. 15. 7 1/2 24417. 11. 10 1/2 172. 18. 1 1/2 2. 8. 1 1/2 954. 5. 0 25571. 18. 9	B. — 11745. 0 O. — 70070. 1 R. — 42205. 6 W. — 74574. 2
1729	1. 16. 6	1. 11. 3	4650. 4 B. at 2. 6 130743. 6 M. at 2. 6 2541. 0 O. at 2. 6 1460. 3 R. at 3. 6 18093. 3 W. at 5. 0 158389. 1	581. 6. 3 16342. 19. 8 1/2 317. 12. 6 255. 11. 3 1/2 474. 6. 10 1/2 22245. 16. 7 1/2	B. — 17201. 6 O. — 184071. 0 Om. — 21. 5 R. — 132045. 0 W. — 40315. 2
1730	1. 8. 4 1/2	1. 4. 9	14982. 3 B. at 2. 6 179446. 2 M. at 2. 6 4479. 2 O. at 2. 6 12394. 4 R. at 3. 6 95970. 7 W. at 5. 0 305273. 2	1872. 15. 11 1/2 22430. 15. 7 1/2 559. 18. 1 1/2 2169. 0. 9 2302. 14. 4 1/2 50525. 4. 9 1/2	B. — 386. 1 O. — 95149. 4 W. — 75. 7
Mean price of these ten years.	1. 12. 7 1/4	1. 5. 9. 0 1/2	167545. 1 B. at 2. 6 2629539. 5 M. at 2. 6 15429. 1 O. at 2. 6 210868. 5 R. at 3. 6 1157790. 5 W. at 5. 0 4181173. 1	20943. 2. 9 1/2 328692. 9. 0 1/2 1928. 12. 9 1/2 36902. 0. 2 1/2 289447. 13. 1 1/2 677913. 18. 0 1/2	B. — 29877. 7 O. — 413222. 4 R. — 174251. 2 W. — 115125. 4 Om. — 21. 2 732468. 4

Reigned	Peace or War.	OBSERVATIONS.
George I.	Peace.	
	Peace.	Number of horses within the bills of mortality 22639.
	Peace.	A remarkable dry year.
	Peace.	Trade and commerce is said to flourish at this time. At Exeter, beef, mutton, veal and pork £.0. 0. 1¼. per pound. A mild winter and moderate dry summer.
	Peace.	National interest £ 3. per cent. From March 29 to September, it rained every day more or less, except ten days.
	Peace.	Three pence per quarter allowed by parliament to such as make malt for exportation, for their extraordinary charge and trouble.
George II.	Peace.	The tinnors of Cornwall rise, and plunder the grainaries in that county; provoked thereto by the scarcity of corn, occasioned by excess of exportation.
	Peace.	An act passed settling the price of imported corn: the lords declare the trade and manufactures of England decay.
	Peace.	A general sickness. An act relative to the importation of corn.
	Peace.	Such abuse to this time there had been in making malt for exportation; by the increase of malted corn being 8 or 10 times more than the original barley: that an act passed, ordering, that malsters for every 20 quarters of barley made into malt for exportation, to be allowed bounty for 30 quarters only, tho' the same should run to a farther length.
Mean of the quantity of corn exported in this period of ten years.		Mean of the whole bounty paid in this period of ten years.
Barley - - - - - 16754. 4		£. 67791. 7. 10.
Malt - - - - - 262954. 0		
Oatmeal - - - - - 1543. 0		
Rye - - - - - 21086. 7		
Wheat - - - - - 115779. 0		
		Mean of the sums paid in this period for such years when the bounty acted without controul.
		£. 67791. 7. 10.

Mean Price of the Necessaries of Life from the Year 1706, to the Alteration made in the Bounty granted to export Malt, A. D. 1730.

Purchase of land.	Rent of land per acre.	Interest of money.	Wheat per quarter.	Malt per quarter.	Sea coals per chaldron.	Hay per load.
		£. 4. 5. 0. per cent.	£. 1. 15. 0 $\frac{3}{4}$	£. 1. 6. 2 $\frac{1}{4}$		
Price of cattle.	Price of fowls.	Butchers meat per stone.	Ale and beer per gallon.	Linen and woollen cloths per yard.	Butter and cheese per pound.	Wages and labour per day.
		Beef and mutton £. 0. 1. 8. Veal and pork £. 0. 2. 0.	Brown strong £. 0. 1. 0. Brown small £. 0. 0. 2. Pale strong £. 0. 1. 4. Pale small £. 0. 0. 3.			

Scarce had the exportation of corn with a bounty, acted for twelve years, and when the quantity exported was equal only to one third of what since it has been; but queen Ann in her speech to parliament complains of its ill effects: a temporary stop was put thereto; but whether the measure in itself was just, or whether the time was come when it required an alteration, was not inquired into. In a country, so fertile as Great Britain, when, after several years of plenty, complaints of want reach the throne; the defect cannot be attributed to the unseasonableness of weather, it arises solely from misapplication, which when stopped only at the approach of famine, does not remedy the evil, it barely prevents this coming to extremes. To discover where the excess of the exportation of grain may be said to begin, men inquire what are the mean prices of grain, at which the general good is consulted; that is, where the landowner, the grower, and the consumer have in their respective station no cause of complaint: where sound judgment and disinterestedness meet, there should the opinion be had. Mr. King, an ingenious calculator, and who was well skilled in landed matters, says, in a year of moderate plenty, grain sells well at the following prices; wheat at £. 1. 8. 0. per quarter, rye at £. 1. 0. 0. per quarter, barley £. 0. 16. 0. per quarter, oats at £. 0. 12. 0. per quarter, pease and beans at £. 1. 0. 0. per quarter, and he was so satisfied that such were the standard prices, that he adds, one tenth defect, will raise the price of corn above the common rate three tenths; two tenths defects, will raise it eight tenths; and three tenths defect, will advance it one and six tenths; by which it appears the advance in price far exceeds the proportion of deficiency, and a deficiency by no means so

so effectually can be made, than by an excess of exportation; more especially if the laws permitting this are so framed as to admit of deceit.

The intent of government in granting a bounty to export malt, could be no other, than to encourage agriculture; that is, that barley thus manufactured when exported should receive the same bounty, and under the same terms as it would have done had it been sent abroad in its natural state: as the act did not specify what constituted malt, designing men readily perceived the process requisite to give barley this denomination, did not need to be regularly carried on, but might at different stages be exceeded or retrenched from what it properly should be, this, as it suited best to interested designs. If the volume of one quarter of barley, by having been made to imbibe as much water as it is susceptible of, by being encouraged to shoot long roots and long acrospires, will when on the floors of the malt-houses, where the excise officers take their gauges, by being swelled with moisture and by laying hollow, take up a space many more than it did in its original state, and on which multiplied volume, they suppose themselves intitled to a bounty on exportation; in this case they would be very cautious by putting themselves to the expence of fire, too much to reduce the apparent bulk: by this management and if the deceit be restrained within a lesser compass, they are enabled to export to the Dutch what they termed malt, and obtain a bounty thereon even when it is not allowed on barley; at which times, thereby, not only a greater deficiency of this grain is made, when so scarce as the act supposes it to be better kept at home, but our own manufactures are injured, and the necessities of the labouring poor unnecessarily and in a very great proportion enhanced, the public money, intended to encourage agriculture, bestowed on that which the land never produced, and the Dutch distillery animated and supported in preference of our own.

But when the inferior sort of barley was at £. 0. 10. 0. or £. 0. 12. 0. per quarter, and the above management was suffered to act to its utmost extent, so that one quarter of barley shewed a bulk of seven or eight quarters of malt, and when in the year 1726, to the bounty of £. 0. 2. 6. already given to export malt, was added to £. 0. 0. 3. per quarter, for the extraordinary charge and trouble of making for exportation; this made £. 0. 2. 9. per quarter paid out of the public revenues for barlies supposed to be converted into malt for exportation: now seven times £. 0. 2. 9. being £. 0. 19. 3. the bounty received for exporting one quarter of barley under these circumstances is almost double the original cost of the grain; this allowed, there was no need to find a foreign market for the sale of the overplus corn, wheeled in barrows on board a ship, the vessel when out of sight of land, had nothing more to do than to cast her cargo into the sea, and return for another loading. That this has been the fact, the malting towns in England,

especially

especially those facing the Dutch coasts; many excise-officers, whose duty it then was to attend on these spurious traders, and the act passed concerning the increase of malted barley in 1730 are sufficient testimonies of this abuse; how much probably the government by this practice was imposed upon, hereafter will be shewn: certain it is, these exporters of grain not only robbed the revenue, but also the nation of an immense quantity of nourishment. The bounty given to export malt overacting itself, to redress this it was ordered, that malsters, for every twenty quarters of barley made into malt for exportation, shall be allowed thirty quarters only, though the same should run a farther length. With humble deference to the decision of so illustrious an assembly, that properly cannot be stiled malt when the increase of volume is equal to one part in three; the definition before given of malt, will shew the bounty for exporting of it, should be allowed for no more, than for the quantity of barley from which it was made, and this only when barley is at less value than the exporting price. The many benefits that would arise from hence, offer themselves, the public treasury would not be applied to pay a bounty for a nonentity, or at most for water and air, the exporting malster would then be careful how he converted barlies into malt, and improve, not debase his art; barley would not go out of the kingdom when the act supposed there was a much greater necessity to keep it at home. The English brewery and English distillery, both (when under due regulations) so necessary to the state, would be relieved from one oppression they have long laboured under.

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SECTION

SECTION XIV.

Year	Wheat per quarter. £ s. d.	Malt per quarter. £ s. d.	Quarters of grain exported. qrs. bush. s. d.	Bounty paid. £ s. d.	Quarters of grain imported. qrs. b.
1731	1. 5. 6½	0. 19. 7½	13562. 2 B. at 2. 6 177699. 4 M. at 2. 6 1808. 1 O. at 2. 6 21089. 7 R. at 3. 6 130025. 2 W. at 5. 0 344185. 0	1695. 5. 7½ 22212. 8. 9 226. 0. 3½ 3694. 14. 6½ 32506. 6. 3 60330. 15. 6	B. — 3503. 0 O. — 15892. 7 Om. — 0. 3 W. — 4. 0
1732	1. 0. 9	1. 3. 8	13874. 6 B. at 2. 6 161075. 4 M. at 2. 6 1274. 7 O. at 2. 6 15535. 5 R. at 3. 6 202058. 4 W. at 5. 0 393819. 2	1734. 6. 10½ 20134. 8. 9 159. 7. 2½ 2718. 14. 8 50514. 12. 6 75261. 9. 11½	O. — 12044. 1
1733	1. 1. 10	1. 1. 5	37598. 0 B. at 2. 6 203115. 0 M. at 2. 6 1487. 4 O. at 2. 6 28155. 1 R. at 3. 6 427199. 0 W. at 5. 0 697554. 5	4699. 15. 0 25389. 7. 6 185. 18. 9 4927. 2. 11½ 106709. 15. 0 142001. 19. 2½	B. — 2. 0 O. — 9. 0 W. — 7. 4
1734	1. 10. 2½	1. 1. 5	70224. 5 B. at 2. 6 233124. 0 M. at 2. 6 3038. 6 O. at 2. 6 10735. 0 R. at 3. 6 498196. 4 W. at 5. 0 815318. 7	8778. 1. 6½ 29140. 10. 0 379. 16. 10½ 1878. 12. 6 124549. 2. 6 164726. 3. 5½	B. — 1. 3 O. — 9. 0 W. — 6. 5
1735	1. 13. 5½	1. 1. 5	57520. 3 B. at 2. 6 219781. 7 M. at 2. 6 1920. 6 O. at 2. 6 129. 4 R. at 3. 6 153343. 5 W. at 5. 0 453896. 1	7190. 0. 11½ 27472. 14. 8½ 240. 1. 10½ 232. 13. 3 38335. 18. 1½ 73471. 8. 10½	O. — 6439. 0 W. — 9. 1
1736	1. 11. 5	1. 2. 7	6860. 1 B. at 2. 6 19202. 4 M. at 2. 6 1196. 5 O. at 2. 6 1220. 5 R. at 3. 6 118170. 7 W. at 5. 0 320050. 6	857. 10. 3½ 24075. 6. 3 149. 11. 6 213. 12. 2½ 29542. 14. 4½ 54838. 14. 7½	O. — 267. 5 R. — 0. 3 W. — 16. 5
1737	1. 9. 7	1. 4. 6	23669. 5 B. at 2. 6 103718. 2 M. at 2. 6 1921. 4 O. at 2. 6 7849. 3 R. at 3. 6 461602. 0 W. at 5. 0 598760. 6	2958. 14. 6½ 12964. 15. 7½ 240. 3. 9 1373. 12. 9½ 115400. 10. 0 132937. 16. 3	O. — 7. 0 W. — 32. 4
1738	1. 7. 8	1. 5. 6½	70689. 6 B. at 2. 6 188607. 7 M. at 2. 6 1777. 3 O. at 2. 6 36159. 1 R. at 3. 6 580596. 4 W. at 5. 0 877830. 5	8836. 4. 4½ 23575. 19. 8½ 222. 3. 5½ 6327. 16. 11½ 145149. 2. 6 184111. 6. 11½	B. — 0. 7 O. — 21. 3 W. — 2. 5
1739	1. 9. 11½	1. 4. 0	54447. 1 B. at 2. 6 191876. 6 M. at 2. 6 1116. 3 O. at 2. 6 29791. 2 R. at 3. 6 279542. 2 W. at 5. 0 556774. 0	6805. 17. 9½ 23984. 11. 10½ 139. 10. 11½ 5213. 9. 4½ 69885. 12. 6 106029. 2. 6½	B. — 0. 3 O. — 32. 0 W. — 22. 7
1740	1. 19. 5	1. 8. 8	24036. 6 B. at 2. 6 145527. 5 M. at 2. 6 2571. 7 O. at 2. 6 8979. 4 R. at 3. 6 54390. 4 W. at 5. 0 235506. 2	3004. 11. 10½ 18190. 19. 0½ 321. 9. 8½ 1571. 8. 3 13597. 12. 6 36686. 1. 4½	B. — 1. 2 O. — 133. 3 R. — 1090. 0 W. — 5468. 5
Mean price of these ten years.	1. 8. 11¼ ⅔	1. 3. 3¼ ⅙	372483. 3 B. at 2. 6 1817128. 7 M. at 2. 6 18113. 6 O. at 2. 6 160845. 0 R. at 3. 6 2905125. 2 W. at 5. 0 5273696. 2	46560. 8. 5½ 227141. 2. 2½ 2264. 4. 4½ 28147. 17. 6 76281. 6. 1 10303. 4. 18. 8½	B. — 3508. 7 O. — 36055. 3 R. — 1090. 3 W. — 5570. 4 Om. — 0. 1 4225. 4

Reigned	Peace or War.	OBSERVATIONS.
George II.	Peace.	An unusual drought.
	Peace.	The mean quantity of coals imported in the port of London for the last seven years was 474714 chaldrons. The drought continues. An act passed relative to the importation of corn.
	Peace.	
	Peace.	
	Peace.	France undersells Englands in its woollen manufactures at foreign markets, by 10 and 12 per cent. POSTLETHWAITE.
	Peace.	The French have built in most of their manufacturing towns, as at Lisle. &c. more especially where their woollen trade is carried on, magazines for corn, wine. &c. which they store in cheap times, and sell out at reasonable rates to the labouring poor, in times of scarcity; and this was their practice, even before they were so intent to encourage commerce as they now are.
	Peace.	Interest of money from £. 3. to £. 5. per cent.
	Peace.	An act passed making it felony to prevent or impede the exportation of corn. The price of labour at Amiens in Picardy, where much English wool is manufactured, one third less than at Norwich. English wool £. 0. 13. 6. per tod.
	War with Spain.	On the 10th and 11th of September was a most violent storm of thunder and lightning and rain. English wool £. 0. 13. 0. per tod.
	War with Spain.	The king, at opening this session of parliament, recommends to the house to consider of some proper regulations, for preventing the exportation of corn. The exportation prohibited for one year. A most intense frost, which lasted three months from Christmas: hence occasion was taken to raise the price of coals to £.3.15.0. per chaldron. The board of trade certify to his majesty, that the French chiefly supply Turkey with woollen goods.

Mean of the quantities of corn exported in this period of ten years.	Mean of the whole bounty paid in these ten years.	Mean of the sums paid in this period of years when the bounty acted without controul.
Barley - - - - - 37248 - 3	£. 103039. 9. 10½.	£. 103039. 9. 10½.
Malt - - - - - 181712 - 7		
Oatmeal - - - - - 1811 - 3		
Rye - - - - - 16084 - 4		
Wheat - - - - - 290512 - 4		

Year	Wheat per quarter. £. s. d.	Malt per quarter. £. s. d.	Quarters of grain exported. qrs. bush. s. d.	Bounty paid. £. s. d.	Quarters of grain imported qrs. b
1741	1. 16. 3½	1. 9. 2	6614. 1 B. at 2. 6 123357. 6 M. at 2. 6 1106. 6 O. at 2. 6 7622. 1 R. at 3. 6 45416. 7 W. at 5. 0 184117. 5	826. 15. 3½ 15419. 14. 4½ 138. 6. 10½ 1333. 17. 5½ 11354. 4. 4½ 29072. 18. 4½	B. — 15132. 0 O. — 84821. 7 R. — 11012. 4 W. — 7540. 2
1742	1. 6. 5½	1. 7. 8	11482. 4 B. at 2. 6 189525. 7 M. at 2. 6 1380. 2 O. at 2. 6 63272. 2 R. at 3. 6 293259. 6 W. at 5. 0 558920. 5	1435. 6. 3 23690. 14. 8½ 172. 10. 7½ 11072. 12. 10½ 73314. 18. 9 109686. 3. 2½	O. — 25. 0 W. — 0. 7
1743	0. 19. 4	1. 6. 0½	34995. 1 B. at 2. 6 219217. 5 M. at 2. 6 1882. 3 O. at 2. 6 88272. 7 R. at 3. 6 371431. 3 W. at 5. 0 715799. 3	4374. 7. 9½ 27402. 4. 0½ 235. 5. 7½ 15447. 15. 0½ 92857. 16. 10½ 140317. 9. 5½	O. — 12. 6 W. — 2. 5
1744	0. 19. 4	1. 3. 0	20090. 0 B. at 2. 6 219862. 4 M. at 2. 6 1657. 6 O. at 2. 6 74169. 1 R. at 3. 6 231984. 5 W. at 5. 0 547764. 0	2511. 5. 0 27482. 16. 3 207. 4. 4½ 12979. 11. 11½ 57066. 3. 1½ 101177. 0. 8½	O. — 67. 6 W. — 2. 0
1745	1. 1. 5	1. 1. 11	95878. 7 B. at 2. 6 219354. 6 M. at 2. 6 9770. 3 O. at 2. 6 83966. 2 R. at 3. 6 324819. 5 W. at 5. 0 733809. 7	11984. 17. 2½ 27419. 6. 10½ 1221. 5. 11½ 14694. 1. 10½ 81209. 18. 1½ 136529. 10. 0	O. — 5. 1 W. — 5. 6
1746	1. 10. 4	1. 1. 2	158719. 3 B. at 2. 6 282024. 6 M. at 2. 6 20203. 0 O. at 2. 6 45782. 3 R. at 3. 6 130646. 2 W. at 5. 0 637375. 6	19839. 18. 5½ 35253. 1. 10½ 2525. 7. 6 8011. 18. 3½ 32661. 11. 3 9891. 17. 4½	
1747	1. 7. 1	1. 1. 5	103140. 2 B. at 2. 6 361289. 3 M. at 2. 6 2122. 4 O. at 2. 6 92718. 3 R. at 3. 6 266906. 7 W. at 5. 0 826177. 3	12892. 10. 7½ 45161. 3. 5½ 265. 6. 3 16225. 14. 3½ 66726. 15. 4½ 141271. 9. 0	
1748	1. 8. 9½	1. 1. 11	73857. 0 B. at 2. 6 349363. 0 M. at 2. 6 3768. 4 O. at 2. 6 103891. 4 R. at 3. 6 543387. 5 W. at 5. 0 1074267. 5	9232. 2. 6 43670. 7. 6 471. 1. 3 18181. 0. 3 135846. 18. 1½ 207401. 9. 7½	W. — 6. 2
1749	1. 8. 9½	1. 3. 6½	52621. 3 B. at 2. 6 355469. 5 M. at 2. 6 1281. 2 O. at 2. 6 106312. 4 R. at 3. 6 629049. 0 W. at 5. 0 1144733. 0	6577. 13. 5½ 44433. 14. 0½ 160. 3. 1½ 18604. 13. 9 157262. 5. 0 227038. 9. 4½	B. — 40. 0 W. — 382. 0
1750	1. 5. 3½	1. 3. 6½	224500. 7 B. at 2. 6 330754. 2 M. at 2. 6 4283. 4 O. at 2. 6 99049. 3 R. at 3. 6 947602. 1 W. at 5. 0 1606190. 1	28062. 12. 2½ 41344. 9. 7½ 535. 8. 9 17333. 12. 9½ 236900. 10. 7½ 324176. 10. 6	O. — 20. 3 W. — 279. 5
Mean price of these ten years	1. 6. 3¼	1. 3. 11¼	781899. 4 B. at 2. 6 2650219. 4 M. at 2. 6 47456. 2 O. at 2. 6 765056. 6 R. at 3. 6 3784624. 1 W. at 5. 0 8029156. 1	97737. 8. 9 331277. 8. 9 5932. 0. 7½ 133884. 18. 7½ 946111. 0. 7½ 1514962. 17. 4½	B. — 15172. 0 O. — 84952. 7 R. — 11012. 4 W. — 8219. 3 119356. 6

Reigned	Peace or War.	OBSERVATIONS.
George II.	War general in Europe.	An epidemical fever in Great-Britain. Millers and bakers are taxed with adulterating flour and bread. No exportation of corn allowed for one year. Butter at Bedford-market, 3 pence $\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 pence per pound. English wool £. 0. 10. 0. per tod.
	War general in Europe.	
	War with Spain and France.	The French king declares war. English wool £. 0. 19. 6. per tod.
	War with Spain and France.	Mean price of hay, £. 2. 4. 0. per load.
	War with Spain and France.	A rebellion in England and Scotland. A mortality among cattle which lasted three or four years.
	War with Spain and France.	Notwithstanding the war, an exportation of corn allowed for France to a certain limited time, but to a large amount.
	War with Spain and France.	The French contract for 400000 quarters of wheat.
	Peace.	A very dry summer; trade is said to flourish, but France underfells England in the woollen trade, at foreign markets, from 12 to 16 per cent. POSTLETHWAITE.
	Peace.	Agriculture and trade greatly encouraged in Scotland. Mr. Pelham observes to the house of commons, that for the three last years past, a very extraordinary sum had been paid as bounty, for the exportation of corn.
	Peace.	In the beginning of February was a violent tempest of thunder, lightning, wind, hail and rain about Bristol. The 8th there was an earthquake in and about London.
Mean of the quantities of corn exported in this period of ten years.		Mean of the bounties paid in this period of ten years.
Barley - - - - - 78190. 0		£. 151496. 5. 9.
Malt - - - - - 265022. 0		
Oatmeal - - - - - 4745. 5		
Rye - - - - - 76505. 5		
Wheat - - - - - 378452. 4		
		Mean of the sums paid in this period for such years when the bounty acted without controul.
		£. 165098. 7. 8.

Year	Wheat per quarter. £. s. d.	Malt per quarter. £. s. d.	Quarters of grain exported. qrs. bu/h. s. d.	Bounty paid. £. s. d.	Quarters of grain imported qrs. b.
1751	1. 9. 11½	1. 3. 11½	32698. 0 B. at 2. 6 256547. 0 M. at 2. 6 2476. 2 O. at 2. 6 71048. 4 R. at 3. 6 661416. 4 W. at 5. 0 1024186. 6	4087. 5. 0 32062. 7. 6 309. 10. 7½ 12433. 9. 9 16534. 2. 6 214252. 15. 4½	O. — 2291. 1 W. — 3. 0
1752	1. 12. 6½	1. 5. 0	106331. 3 B. at 2. 6 287578. 6 M. at 2. 6 1590. 1 O. at 2. 6 57847. 2 R. at 3. 6 420279. 4 W. at 5. 0 882627. 0	13291. 8. 5½ 35947. 6. 10½ 198. 15. 3 10123. 5. 4½ 107319. 17. 6 166880. 13. 6	B. — 0. 2 O. — 250. 0 Om. — 10. 0
1753	1. 14. 9	1. 5. 0	67049. 0 B. at 2. 6 274424. 7 M. at 2. 6 7012. 1 O. at 2. 6 24835. 7 R. at 3. 6 299608. 7 W. at 5. 0 672930. 6	8381. 2. 6 34303. 2. 2½ 876. 10. 3½ 4346. 5. 6½ 74902. 4. 4½ 122809. 4. 11½	O. — 33. 3 Om. — 2. 4
1754	1. 6. 11½	1. 5. 0½	47776. 3 B. at 2. 6 321995. 0 M. at 2. 6 2330. 2 O. at 2. 6 42915. 1 R. at 3. 6 356270. 1 W. at 5. 0 771286. 7	5972. 0. 11½ 40249. 7. 6 291. 5. 7½ 7510. 2. 11½ 89067. 10. 7½ 143090. 7. 7½	O. — 52421. 7 W. — 201. 0
1755	1. 6. 4	1. 3. 7½	32836. 0 B. at 2. 6 341568. 6 M. at 2. 6 1112. 2 O. at 2. 6 43441. 7 R. at 3. 6 237459. 2 W. at 5. 0 656418. 1	4104. 10. 0 42696. 1. 10½ 139. 0. 7½ 7602. 6. 6½ 59364. 16. 3 113906. 15. 3½	O. — 1591. 2 Om. — 292. 0
1756	1. 15. 2½	1. 4. 0	26938. 5 B. at 2. 6 236925. 6 M. at 2. 6 2310. 4 O. at 2. 6 29968. 7 R. at 3. 6 101936. 4 W. at 5. 0 398080. 2	3367. 6. 6½ 29615. 14. 4½ 288. 16. 3 5244. 11. 0½ 25484. 2. 6 64000. 10. 9	B. — 4. 6 O. — 41390. 0 Om. — 5280. 4 R. — 1695. 0 W. — 5. 0
1757	2. 6. 8	1. 11. 9	7094. 7 B. at 2. 6 56164. 2 M. at 2. 6 4417. 6 O. at 2. 6 907. 1 R. at 3. 6 11226. 0 W. at 5. 0 79810. 0	886. 17. 2½ 7020. 10. 7½ 552. 4. 4½ 158. 14. 11½ 2806. 10. 0 11424. 17. 1½	R. — 5781. 1 O. — 7460. 2 Om. — 298. 3 R. — 7861. 7 W. — 130343. 2
1758	1. 18. 11	1. 11. 9	691. 0 B. at 2. 6 10728. 0 M. at 2. 6 1831. 4 O. at 2. 6 R. at 3. 6 9233. 6 W. at 5. 0 22484. 3	86. 7. 6 1341. 0. 3½ 228. 18. 9 2308. 8. 9 3964. 15. 3½	B. — 9752. 2 O. — 12276. 2 Om. — 1563. 7 W. — 19039. 7
1759	1. 11. 0	1. 5. 0	22862. 4 B. at 2. 6 166079. 0 M. at 2. 6 3134. 6 O. at 2. 6 41480. 2 R. at 3. 6 226426. 0 W. at 5. 0 459982. 4	2857. 16. 3 20759. 17. 6 391. 16. 10½ 7259. 0. 10½ 56606. 10. 0 87875. 1. 6	B. — 42. 4 O. — 321. 4 Om. — 13. 2 W. — 82. 1
1760	1. 8. 5	1. 6. 0	34592. 4 B. at 2. 6 224195. 0 M. at 2. 6 2338. 4 O. at 2. 6 52776. 4 R. at 3. 6 390710. 4 W. at 5. 0 704613. 0	4324. 1. 3 28024. 7. 6 292. 6. 3 9235. 17. 9 97677. 12. 6 139554. 5. 3	Om. — 3. 6
Mean price of these ten years.	1. 13. 0¾ 6/10	1. 6. 1¼ 4/10	378870. 2 B. at 2. 6 2176206. 4 M. at 2. 6 28554. 0 O. at 2. 6 365221. 3 R. at 3. 6 2723567. 0 W. at 5. 0 5672419. 1	47358. 15. 7½ 272025. 16. 3 3569. 5. 0 63913. 14. 9½ 680891. 15. 0 1067759. 6. 8	B. — 15580. 7 O. — 118035. 5 R. — 9556. 7 W. — 149674. 2 Om. — 7464. 2 300311. 7

Reigned	Peace or War.	OBSERVATIONS.
George II.	Peace.	English wool £. 0. 17. 0. per tod. A manufacture of Manchester goods is set up at Roan in France, who undersell the English £. 14. per cent.
	Peace.	A great storm of wind in March. To one ship we have in the Turkey trade, the French have ten. HANWAY.
	Peace.	An act passed allowing £. 3. per cent. interest on corn debentures until the principal is discharged. The people in the West, Manchester, Yorkshire, and many other counties, rise on account of the high prices of provisions, and the exportation of corn; eight people are killed at Leeds.
	Peace.	For more than 60 years past the French have infringed on our woollen manufactures; their trade for these merchandizes to Spain, Portugal, Italy, Turkey, the East-Indies and America, indisputably prove this: in cases of need they are assisted with corn from England, with a large discount or bounty, and with other provisions from Ireland.
	War with France.	Great quantities of corn and provisions sent to Lisbon, on occasion of their distress by the late earthquake.
	War with France.	Many insurrections in England on account of the scarcity of corn, and the high prices of provisions. The king expresses to the parliament his concern for the sufferings of the poor, and the disturbances to which they have given rise; and exhorts them to consider of proper measures to prevent the like mischiefs hereafter. The exportation of corn prohibited from Christmas.
	War with France.	No exportation of corn until December 27, 1757. The English distillery stopped. Importation of corn allowed duty free until August 27, 1757. The commons, after an enquiry into the distresses of the poor, enforce the laws against forestallers and regrators. The poor rise in many counties.
	War with France.	The last crop great, but an unfavourable harvest: no exportation allowed till Dec. 24, 1758: a bill is brought into the house of commons for reducing the bounty on the exportation of corn; it is read twice, then dropped. The commons make enquiry concerning the weights and measures of the kingdom. The number of taxable houses are now found to be 690000 only. See the year 1688.
	War with France.	No exportation of corn allowed until December 24, 1759, but subject to alteration. The Norfolk farmers, and the grand jury of that county petition to export corn; exportation allowed to March 25, 1759. The English distillery stopped to December 24, 1759. The consideration of weights and measures resumed. Hay £. 3. 5. 0. per load.
George III.	War with France.	The English distillery allowed to work. Weights and measures again under the consideration of the house of commons. An additional duty of three pence per bushel is laid on malt; the malt duty now £. 0. 6. 0. per quarter, for which in these accounts £. 0. 5. 8. only is added to the Windsor price.
Mean of the quantities of corn exported in this period of 10 years.		Mean of the whole bounty paid in this period of 10 years.
Barley - - - - 37887. - 0		£. 106775. 18. 8.
Malt - - - - 217620. - 5		
Oatmeal - - - - 2855. - 3		
Rye - - - - 36522. - 1		
Wheat - - - - 272356. - 6		
		Mean of the sums paid in this period for such years when the bounty acted without controul. 6 years.
		£. 150082. 7. 0.

Mean Price of the Necessaries of Life from the Year 1730, to the additional Duty laid on Malt, 1760, inclusive.

Purchase of land.	Rent of land per acre.	Interest of money.	Wheat per quarter.	Malt per quarter.	Sea-coals per chaldron.	Hay per load.
30 years.	Arable £.0.12 0. Meadow £.0.15.0.	£.3. 13. 6.	£.1 9. 5½	£.1. 4. 5½.	£. 2. 0. 0.	£. 2. 10. 0.
Price of cattle.	Price of fowls.	Butchers meat per stone.	Ale and beer per gallon.	Linen and woollen cloths per yard.	Butter and cheese per pound.	Wages and labour per day.
Horse £.10.0.0 A cow - 7.7.0 An ox - 8. 0.0 A sheep 1.6.0 A hog - 1.15.0	A goose £.0.3.6 A turkey 0.4.0 A cock - 0.1.3 A hen - 0.1.3 A pigeon 0.0.2½	Beef - £.0.2.0 Mutton - 0.2.0 Veal - - 0.2.8 Pork - - 0.2.6	Brown strong £.0.1.0. Brown small £.0.0.2. Pale strong £.0.1.4. Pale small £.0.0.3.	Fine woollen colours £.0.17.0. Scarlet £.1.0.0 Middling linen £.0.3.3.	Butter £.0. 0. 9. Cheese £.0. 0. 3½.	Foot soldier £.0.0.5 Seamen £.0.0.9 Labourers £.0.1.8.

During this period, his majesty from the throne had twice occasion to recommend to his parliament, to consider of proper regulations to prevent the exportation of corn. Mr. Pelham observed to the house of commons the extraordinary sums paid as bounty for this purpose. The poor rose in many parts on account of the scarcity of provisions; the exportation of corn was occasionally stopped as a means necessary to reduce its price: these facts, and the prices that gave occasion to them, countenance the opinion that the spirit of the law for granting a bounty to export corn when so high-priced was mistaken.

The whole sum given during this æra, on account of sending corn aboard, was £.3,613,117. 2s. 9d. Near one twentieth part of the arable lands of England was employed in the service of foreigners. In 1738 an act passed, making it felony to impede the exportation of corn: once, during the war, which had begun in 1739, we relieved our necessitous enemies with our grain; and in 1753, £.3. per cent. was allowed on every debenture issued for the bounty for exporting corn, this interest to continue until the principal was discharged. By these several acts, the parliament certainly gave encouragement to the literal interpretation of the act of the first of king William and queen Mary to take place in its full latitude; the prospect of present gain soon engaged some persons to avail themselves thereof; for during one of these prohibitions, the grand jury of Norfolk petitioned to have leave to export, although the English distillery was stopped: so great a number of strong facts, some contradictory to the others, in so small a space as thirty years, with a sum given to export grain, greater than before ever was known in England, or perhaps in the whole world, proves this policy was extended to the utmost; we will endeavour to shew the immediate consequences.

There can be no doubt when the cause of the poor was pleaded by majesty, when many towns and cities petitioned to have

have the exportation of corn stopped in order to moderate its price, but that the kingdom in general was hurt by the dearth of provisions occasioned thereby: yet, it must be observed, that for no one year, wherein these complaints were made, had the averaged price of wheat reached so high, as where the bounty is allowed, £. 2. 8. 0. per quarter; the parliament stopping the exportation before such was the case, from the effects they saw, must have been of opinion, at this price, it was suffering it too long. Wheat, when at £. 2. 8. 0. per quarter, makes the quarter loaf of bread £. 0. 0. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$.: if bread is one third of the expence of the poor, for the necessaries of life, a family of four persons will consume this in a day, and the remainder of the father's wages will not afford the many others wanting; nor is £. 2. 8. 0. per quarter for wheat a price, which foreigners, without the utmost necessity, can be induced to give; the imports made by England when the prices were less in 1757 and 1758 shew this. The exporting malt, until it reaches the price of £. 1. 4. 0. per quarter, has before been mentioned: I will just add here, barley in England must be at the enormous price of £. 1. 13. 0. per quarter before the bounty can be refused on exporting of malt; and this certainly was never the intention of the legislature. Employing so large a proportion of our cultivated lands, for the service of foreigners, must straiten the means of raising every other kind of provision to such a degree, that the utmost exertion of industry in the poor cannot reach them; so the people were either obliged to desert the country, or enhance the price of labour: the consequence of which can be no other, but that our manufactures must come to foreign markets, dearer than those of other nations; and Mr. Postlethwaite observes this disadvantage in 1748 increased from £. 10. to £. 16. per cent. our clothing towns have not mended since that time. How great a share of the taxes of this kingdom are borne by traders and artificers, we may likely hereafter have occasion to mention; but surely such it is, that the very existence of agriculture in England, and its safety, depends on the supporting and preserving its manufactures.

Out of regard to trade, we frequently have seen in this period, that the parliament has prohibited the exportation of corn, some times for six or eight months, at other times for one whole year. It has been said, by exporting of grain, great quantities of money have entered into the kingdom; but this resting principally with the farmer, enabled him to grasp large tracts of land, and to convert pasture into arable: so that food for cattle becoming less in quantity, they rose in price in proportion as their number decreased: not only so, but wealth and large profits enabled this class of men to withhold corn from markets, and easy could they rest under the prohibition of exporting it, when they knew that by dealing it out scantily, they must have the price they fixed, or that the time would come when the ports would be opened to free its conveyance abroad: perhaps much better had it been, if there had been no deviations from the act, or intermissions of

exportation, the whole of the bad effects, of granting so large a bounty at high prices, would have appeared in its full light, and the consequence certainly had been, an effectual and lasting remedy; the people would not have been tantalized with temporary reliefs, which in fact have operated little otherwise than to prolong the evil; these truths we may conclude from the following incident:

In 1759 a petition from several farmers of the county of Norfolk was presented to the honourable the house of commons.

They represented " That their farms consisted chiefly of arable lands, which produced much greater quantities of corn, than could be consumed within that county :

" That in the last harvest, there was a great and plentiful crop of all sorts of grain, the greatest part of which by unfavourable weather, were unfit for sale at London, or other markets for home consumption :

" That large quantities of malt were then lying at London, arising chiefly from the crop of barley, growing in the year 1757, the sale of which was stagnated:

" That they had offered their corn for sale at divers ports and markets of the said county, but the merchants refused to buy at any price, alledging its being unfit for London market, that being over-stocked, and their not being allowed either to export it, or make it into malt for exportation,—They therefore prayed the prohibition of exporting corn might be removed."

In the beginning of February 1759, this petition was seconded by another, of the justices of the peace and of the grand jury of the county of Norfolk, representing

" That the weather proving unfavourable in the harvest, great part of the barley raised in that county was much damaged, and rendered unfit for any other use, than that of being made into malt for exportation :

" That unless it should be speedily manufactured, for that purpose, it would be entirely spoiled, and perish in the hands of the growers; a loss that must be very sensibly felt by the land-owners; they therefore entreated that leave might be given for the exportation of malt, and that they might be favoured with such farther relief, as to the house should seem just and reasonable."

It scarcely need be mentioned that in every petition presented to parliament, the greatest caution is used both in expression and argument, to induce the house to believe the general good is intended; whether such was the case here, some few observations will shew.

If the farms in the county of Norfolk consisted chiefly of arable lands, matters then were greatly altered, since the time the lords of every town there ordered what number of sheep should

should be kept, and directed their walks both in winter and summer: hence is it not evident, that the great gains, made by exporting corn, had induced them to forsake pasture, a neglect in general complained of throughout the kingdom? and the honourable the house of commons was so sensible of this, that they unanimously issued an order to continue the importation of salted beef, salted pork, live cattle, tallow, &c. from Ireland; the assertion in the petition clearly marks to what use the plenty of England was applied.

If a large quantity of barley grew in 1757, and the malt made from it lay in London, the sale of which was stagnated; this certainly was not for want of price, but entirely from the excess of it, for both in this and in the year 1758 upon an average, it sold for £. 1. 11. 9. per quarter, and was notoriously kept so, by express orders from the country not to sell under; this, to the loss of the revenue, and a much greater to the brewery, was severely felt throughout the trade, and owing only to the artificial scarcity avowed in the petition, as they say the crop was large and plentiful, for the equitable medium price of malt, both at this time and for many years before was esteemed £. 1. 4. 0. per quarter.

Artificial scarcity, is when by with-holding a plenty of provisions from market, the prices thereof are raised equal to what they would be, was a real deficiency the case: thus the grain-aries of London rented by corn-owners in the country, after these arts had been practised for two successive years to the utmost, might well be over-stocked, for the people had endured, and at the same time did endure the hardships of famine: merchants certainly would refuse to buy, when every place to vend it at was sufficiently stocked with grain, but with-held.—The authors of these distresses were very little intitled to relief.

Often gentlemen are not much acquainted with the minute circumstances of manufactures, from whence the grand jury of the county of Norfolk may have been engaged to believe and say, great part of the barley was unfit for any other use, than that of being made into malt for exportation: if barley, intended to be converted into malt, has been so mow-burnt, it will not germinate, such will never make malt at any rate, much less for exportation.

If the barley be moist and damp, but has not lost its germinating faculty, to make malt it will require less steeping in the cistern, more care when upon the floors, and when properly dried, rather decrease than augment in volume; but this process honestly and fairly managed, would make it as fit for London as for any market whatever.

To preserve the internal peace of a kingdom, by a free intercourse of trade, the price of grain should be kept moderate, at least uniform, and this prior to the exporting of it beyond the sea; from whence it is apprehended the real reasons of these petitions remained untold; the navigation from Norfolk to Holland is much shorter than to the western parts of England, (where

then a real scarcity existed,) consequently less expensive; obtaining leave to export was supplying their usual customers and chapmen, therefore, on a known and established credit: to continue the great gains made by the artificial scarcity in 1757 and 1758, it became necessary to lessen the quantity of grain, not only in the petitioning county, but as far as possible in the whole kingdom. The most effectual way to do this, was not to supply the other parts of England, but to send it abroad; and could this end be obtained, by making the barlies into what was called malt, it was exporting this sort of grain in the most advantageous manner, and in fact with a bounty on the barley of £.0. 4. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. per quarter, instead of £.0. 2. 6. This was the surest means of making great gains, of keeping up the prices, and of answering the views of particular men; but the manufactures depending on corn, and unanimously the whole kingdom, complained of their losses and necessities.

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SECTION

SECTION XV.

Year	Wheat per quarter. £. s. d.	Malt per quarter. £. s. d.	Quarters of grain exported. qrs. bu/h. s. d.	Bounty paid. £. s. d.	Quarters of grain imported qrs. b.
1761	1. 3. 7	1. 5. 11	97897. 1 B. at 2. 6 279051. 5 M. at 2. 6 2839. 6 O. at 2. 6 57571. 1 R. at 3. 6 440746. 2 W. at 5. 0 878105. 7	12237. 2. 9 ³ / ₄ 34881. 9. 0 ¹ / ₂ 354. 19. 9 ¹ / ₂ 10074. 18. 11 ¹ / ₄ 110186. 11. 3 167735. 1. 10 ¹ / ₄	O. — 21. 0
1762	1. 10. 4	1. 7. 0	130873. 0 B. at 2. 6 254429. 5 M. at 2. 6 1368. 4 O. at 2. 6 28410. 2 R. at 3. 6 294500. 0 W. at 5. 0 705581. 3	16359. 2. 6 31803. 14. 0 ¹ / ₂ 171. 1. 3 4971. 15. 10 ¹ / ₂ 73625. 0. 0 126930. 13. 8 ¹ / ₄	B. — 942. 3 O. — 16570. 1 Om. — 829. 6 W. — 50. 2
1763	1. 11. 8 ¹ / ₂	1. 13. 8	38390. 1 B. at 2. 6 163494. 0 M. at 2. 6 1664. 4 O. at 2. 6 12035. 7 R. at 3. 6 427074. 4 W. at 5. 0 645556. 7	4708. 15. 3 ¹ / ₂ 20636. 15. 0 208. 1. 3 2264. 8. 6 ¹ / ₂ 106768. 11. 10 ¹ / ₂ 134725. 12. 0	B. — 3227. 7 O. — 217637. 5 Om. — 836. 5 W. — 8. 1
1764	1. 16. 4 ¹ / ₂	1. 12. 1 ¹ / ₂	9218. 6 B. at 2. 6 22320. 5 M. at 2. 6 1101. 0 O. at 2. 6 2760. 1 R. at 3. 6 39657. 5 W. at 5. 0 65763. 1	1142. 6. 10 ¹ / ₂ 27302. 11. 6 ¹ / ₂ 117. 12. 6 4845. 15. 5 ¹ / ₂ 9114. 8. 1 ¹ / ₂ 133172. 14. 6	B. — 5110. 2 O. — 12277. 3 Om. — 11832. 3 W. — 1. 1
Mean price of these four years.	1. 10. 6	1. 9. 8	26179. 0 R. at 2. 6 92195. 7 M. at 2. 6 6973. 6 O. at 2. 6 136205. 3 R. at 3. 6 133888. 2 W. at 5. 0 2891012. 2	34517. 7. 6 115274. 9. 8 ¹ / ₂ 871. 14. 4 ¹ / ₂ 22155. 18. 9 ¹ / ₂ 389714. 11. 3 562564. 1. 7 ¹ / ₂	B. — 9280. 4 O. — 356706. 1 R. — W. — 65. 4 Om. — 13558. 6 379610. 7

Though in this æra, the mean price of wheat may be said to be reasonable, that of malt, and other provisions were vexatious: the importation of provisions from Ireland, the tumults of the people, and the enquiry made by parliament, prove this: the monopoly of land, and of the necessaries of life exceeded all bounds; the large and extended gratuity given to export corn, had occasioned so great a quantity of land to be tilled, as lessened the means to raise other provisions: the farmers had gained great riches, consequently interest and power; so they had less occasion, and less inclination to supply the markets, except at exorbitant prices, and even this was done but by few, and with reluctance; in general they sold their goods by wholesale, to such who neither grew, nor consumed them, but whose business, and interest it was continually to be raising the prices by every art, and every device they could invent: this placed the grower, as well as all his family in a station above, and independent of attending markets; in lieu of which they affected

Reigned	Peace or War.	OBSERVATIONS.
George III.	War with France.	An additional duty of £. o. 3. o. per barrel is laid on strong beer, which made the whole duty on strong beer £. o. 8. o. per barrel. The importation of provisions from Ireland continued. Some tumults in London.
	War with France and Spain.	A great drought : The brewers company of the city of London, petitioned parliament that the price of beer may be raised. Uncommon stock-jobbing takes place of industry, and manufactures. A severe frost about Christmas.
	Peace.	Many storms, and great inundations : a wet harvest. Scotland greatly improved, many of their heaths and barren lands brought into pasture and tillage ; land about Edinburgh at 32 years purchase. A turkey £. o. 6. o. a cock £. o. 1. 10. a hen £. o. 1. 10. a pigeon £. o. o. 4. a capon £. o. 3. 6. a fat sheep £. 1. 17. o. a pullet £. o. 2. 6. a chicken £. o. 1. 11.
	Peace.	The king reminds his parliament of the high prices of corn occasioned by the exportation of it. The parliament find the price of beef to be 3 pence per pound to the vender. Number of seamen in the merchants service 60,000. National debt 130,000,000. Beef, mutton and veal at Exeter, from 4 pence to 4 pence $\frac{1}{2}$ per pound. See A. D. 1724. Cheese £. 1. 10. o per hundred weight.
Mean quantities of corn exported in this period of four years.		Mean of the whole bounty paid in this period of four years.
Barley - - - - - 69064 - 0		£. 140641. o. 6.
Malt - - - - - 230549 - 0		
Oatmeal - - - - - 1743 - 3		
Rye - - - - - 31651 - 3		
Wheat - - - - - 389714 - 4		
		Mean of the sums paid in this period for such years when the bounty acted without controul.
		£. 140641. o. 6.

fectd the modes, fashions, and habits of their landlords, and superiors; but at the same time the face of the industrious poor betrayed all the marks of a disturbed mind and despair, the utmost exertion of strength, and ability scarcely providing for their wants.

Before we draw any conclusion, it is necessary to make some general tables, which may serve to throw some light upon the whole, or to which we may have occasion to refer.

Mean

Mean Price of Wheat and Malt divided into Periods of ten Years each.

Periods.	Wheat per quarter.			Malt per quarter.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
From 1550 to 1560	0.	8.	1 $\frac{3}{4}$			
From 1560 to 1570						
From 1570 to 1580						
From 1580 to 1590						
From 1590 to 1600						
From 1600 to 1610	1.	9.	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	0.	15.	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
From 1610 to 1620	1.	11.	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	0.	17.	7 $\frac{1}{4}$
From 1620 to 1630	1.	15.	1	0.	18.	11 $\frac{1}{4}$
From 1630 to 1640	2.	2.	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	1.	5.	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
From 1640 to 1650						
From 1650 to 1660	1.	18.	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	1.	2.	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
From 1660 to 1670	1.	18.	0	1.	3.	0 $\frac{3}{4}$
From 1670 to 1680	1.	19.	5	1.	1.	1
From 1680 to 1690	1.	10.	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	0.	19.	0
From 1690 to 1700	2.	4.	3	1.	4.	0 $\frac{1}{4}$
From 1700 to 1710	1.	12.	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	1.	4.	10 $\frac{3}{4}$
From 1710 to 1720	1.	14.	11	1.	6.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
From 1720 to 1730	1.	12.	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	1.	5.	9
From 1730 to 1740	1.	8.	11 $\frac{3}{4}$	1.	3.	3 $\frac{1}{4}$
From 1740 to 1750	1.	6.	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	1.	3.	11 $\frac{1}{4}$
From 1750 to 1760	1.	13.	0 $\frac{3}{4}$	1.	6.	1 $\frac{1}{4}$
From 1760 to 1765	1.	10.	6	1.	9.	8

Mean Price of Wheat and Malt from the Bounty given A. D. 1689 to A. D. 1765.

Period.	Wheat per quarter.			Malt per quarter.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
From 1689 to 1765	1.	13.	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	1.	5.	4

An Account of Corn exported and imported, divided into Periods of ten Years.

Year.	Barley. qrs. bush.	Malt. qrs. bush.	Oatmeal. qrs. bush.	Rye. qrs. bush.	Wheat. qrs. bush.	Bounty paid. £. s. d.
From 1690 to 1700	89,816. 3	137,480. 2	1,160. 6	31,575. 6	71,198. 5	51,737. 9. 9½
From 1700 to 1710	253,061. 3	1,055,356. 6	1251. 3	474,783. 1	1,011,166. 4	499,472. 14. 8½
From 1710 to 1720	223,041. 0	2,265,058. 6	8,117. 4	353,250. 2	1,120,205. 0	653,897. 14. 0
From 1720 to 1730	167,545. 1	2,629,539. 5	15,429. 1	210,868. 5	1,157,790. 0	677,913. 18. 0½
From 1730 to 1740	372,483. 3	1,817,128. 7	18,113. 6	160,845. 0	2,905,125. 2	1,030,394. 18. 8½
From 1740 to 1750	781,899. 4	2,650,219. 4	47,456. 2	765,056. 6	3,784,524. 1	1,514,962. 17. 4½
From 1750 to 1760	378,870. 2	2,176,206. 4	28,554. 0	365,221. 3	2,723,567. 0	1,067,759. 6. 8
From 1760 to 1765	276,379. 0	922,195. 7	6,973. 6	126,605. 3	1,558,858. 2	562,564. 1. 7½
Total exported	2,543,096. 0	13,653,186. 1	127,056. 4	2,488,206. 2	14,332,435. 3	6,058,702. 10. 11 N. B.
Imported in the whole term }	75,216. 0		21,643. 2	199,884. 3	283,441. 0	
Balance of corn pared by England }	2,467,880. 0	13,653,186. 1	105,413. 2	2,288,321. 7	14,048,994. 3	
Mean value of each	£. s. d. 0. 18. 6	£. s. d. 0. 12. 4	£. s. d. 1. 6. 9	£. s. d. 1. 2. 4	£. s. d. 1. 13. 5½	*
Sum received for each	2,282,789. 0. 0	8,419,464. 15. 6½	140,990. 4. 5½	2,555,292. 15. 2½	23,502,796. 4. 3	
Malt —	8,419,464. 15. 6½					
Oatmeal —	140,990. 4. 5½					
Rye —	2,555,292. 15. 2½					
Wheat —	23,502,796. 4. 3					

Total — £. 36,901,332. 19. 5½ Sum paid by foreigners, and the British government, for corn exported, from 1690 to 1765. The bounty allowed on which is equal nearly to a discompt of £. 19. 12. 6 per cent.

N. B. The Sum of £. 6,058,702. 10. 11. is what the government really paid on account of the exportation of corn; for 2077 quarters 6 bushels of oats exported before the year 1707 is not included therein.

* These are the mean rates of corn, proportioned from the average price of wheat (of which the greatest quantity has been exported) for the whole time, since the bounty was granted, to 1765. The price of malt is double the price of barley divided by three; because for exportation three quarters are allowed to be made out of two quarters of barley.

Mean Prices of Wheat and Malt and other Necessaries of Life,

Year.	Purchase of freehold land.	Rent per acre.			Interest of money per Ct.			Wheat per quarter.			Malt per quarter.		
		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
From the year 1000 to the conquest by K. William I. 1066.	£. 0. 0. 9 per acre.							Conjectured 0. 1. 6					
From the year 1066 to the first year of K. John 1199.				0. 1. 0 $\frac{3}{4}$				Probably 0. 3. 1					
From the year 1199 to the first year of K. Edward II. 1307.					45. 0. 0			Recorded 0. 13. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$			0. 9. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$		
From the year 1307 to the war with France by K. Henry V. 1418.				Arable 0. 1. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ Meadow 0. 0. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$				Conjectured 0. 15. 0			0. 9. 6		
From the year 1418 to the in- troduction of hops into Eng- land 1524.	10 years rent.			Arable 0. 0. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ Meadow 0. 1. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$				Recorded 0. 11. 3 See { 1435 A. D. { 1461 { 1463			0. 8. 0		
From the year 1524 to the se- cond year of K. James I. 1604.					9. 16. 0			Conjectured 0. 15. 0			0. 10. 0		
From the year 1603 to the first year of K. Charles I. 1625.	14 years $\frac{1}{2}$.				8. 10. 0			1. 12. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$			0. 17. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$		
From the year 1625 to the Common- wealth seques- tering college estates 1645.	10 years $\frac{1}{2}$.				8. 0. 0			1. 19. 3 $\frac{1}{4}$			1. 3. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$		

from the Year 1000 to 1765, divided into Periods of Circumstances.

Year	Purchase of land.	Rent per acre.			Interest of money per Ct.			Wheat per quarter.			Malt per quarter.		
		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
From the year 1545 to the restoration of K. Charles II. 1660.					6.	0.	0	2.	4.	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	1.	4.	7
From the year 1660 to the next harvest after the bounty given to export corn 1690.	22 years $\frac{1}{2}$				7.	6.	6	1.	16.	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1.	1.	0 $\frac{3}{4}$
From the year 1690 to the first duty laid on Malt 1697.					7.	10.	0	2.	4.	0 $\frac{1}{2}$	1.	1.	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
From the year 1697 to the extension of the bounty given to export corn 1706.					6.	0.	0	1.	12.	8	1.	5.	8 $\frac{1}{4}$
From the year 1706 to the limiting the bounty given to export malt 1730.					4.	5.	0	1.	15.	0 $\frac{3}{4}$	1.	6.	2 $\frac{1}{4}$
From the year 1730 to the additional duty laid on malt 1760.	30 years	Arable 0. 12. 0 Meadow 1. 0. 0			3.	13.	4	1.	9.	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	1.	4.	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
From the year 1760 to the year 1765.	32 years	Arable 0. 12. 6 Meadow 1. 2. 0			3.	13.	4	1.	10.	6	1.	9.	8

Mean Price of Wheat and Malt and other Neccessaries of Life,

Period.	Sea-coals per chaldron at London.	Hay per load at London.	Price of cattle.	Price of fowls.
From the year 1000, to the conquest by K. William I. 1066.			A horse £.1. 17. 6 A mare 1. 5. 0 A cow 0. 6. 0 A swine 0. 2. 0 A sheep 0. 1. 3 An ox 0. 7. 6	
From the year 1066, to the first year of K. John 1199.			A horse £.0. 12. 5 An ox 0. 4. 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ A calf 0. 2. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ A sheep 0. 1. 8 A fow 0. 3. 0 A ram 0. 1. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	A hen £.0. 0. 3
From the year 1199 to the first year of K. Edward II. 1307.			A horse £.1. 11. 0 An ox 1. 0. 7 A cow 0. 17. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ A sheep 0. 1. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ A lamb 0. 4. 0 A bull 1. 2. 1	A hen £.0. 0. 3 A duck 0. 0. 3 A goose 0. 1. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ A capon 0. 0. 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ A fat cock 0. 0. 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ A partridge 0. 0. 4 $\frac{3}{4}$
From the year 1307 to the war with France by K. Henry V. 1418.			A horse £.0. 18. 4 An ox 2. 6. 1 A cow 0. 17. 2 A heifer 0. 1. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ A sheep 0. 2. 7 A calf 0. 4. 2	A hen £.0. 0. 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ A goose 0. 0. 9 A capon 0. 0. 9 A fat cock 0. 0. 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ A pullet 0. 0. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ A swan 0. 17. 9
From the year 1418 to the introduction of hops into England 1524.		£.0. 9. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	A colt £.0. 7. 8 An ox 1. 15. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ A cow 0. 15. 6 A sheep 0. 4. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ A calf 0. 4. 1 A hog 0. 5. 0 $\frac{3}{4}$	A goose £.0. 0. 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ A pullet 0. 0. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ A cignet 0. 6. 3
From the year 1524 to the second year of K. James I. 1604.	£.0. 7. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	£.0. 11. 6 Straw £.0. 3. 7	An ox £.1. 16. 7 A sheep 0. 4. 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ A calf 0. 5. 6 A lamb 0. 1. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	A goose £.0. 1. 0 A pullet 0. 0. 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ A capon 0. 1. 0 $\frac{1}{4}$ A hen 0. 0. 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ A chicken 0. 0. 3
From the year 1603 to the first year of K. Charles I. 1625.				
From the year 1625 to the common-wealth seques-tring college estates 1645.				A goose £.0. 2. 0 A pullet 0. 1. 6 A pigeon 0. 0. 6 A partridge 0. 1. 0 A pheasant 0. 5. 6 A turkey 0. 3. 9

from the Year 1000 to 1765, divided into Periods of Circumstances.

Period.	Sea-coals per chaldron at London.	Hay per load at London.	Price of cattle.	Price of fowls.
From the year 1645 to the restoration of K. Charles II. 1660.				
From the year 1660 to the next harvest after the bounty given to export corn 1690.	£. 1. 4. 0	£. 1. 12. 0	A horse £. 5. 10. 0 An ox 3. 6. 0 A cow 2. 15. 0 A sheep 0. 11. 0 A hog 0. 14. 0	A goose £. 0. 3. 0 A turkey 0. 4. 0 A cock 0. 1. 3 A hen 0. 1. 3 A pigeon 0. 0. 2
From the year 1690 to the first duty laid on Malt 1697.				
From the year 1697 to the extension of the bounty granted to export corn 1706.				
From the year 1706 to the limiting the bounty given to export malt 1730.				
From the year 1730 to the additional duty laid on malt 1760.	£. 2. 0. 0	£. 2. 10. 0	A horse £. 10. 0. 0 A cow 7. 7. 0 An ox 8. 0. 0 A sheep 1. 6. 0 A hog 1. 15. 0	A goose £. 0. 3. 6 A turkey 0. 4. 0 A cock 0. 1. 6 A hen 0. 1. 6 A pigeon 0. 0. 2½
From the year 1760 to the year 1765.	£. 2. 0. 0	£. 3. 5. 0 Straw £. 1. 7. 0	A horse £. 14. 0. 0 A cow 7. 0. 0 An ox 8. 10. 0 A sheep 1. 7. 0 A hog 1. 15. 0	A goose £. 0. 5. 0 A turkey 0. 6. 0 A cock 0. 1. 10 A hen 0. 1. 10 A pigeon 0. 0. 4

Mean Price of Wheat and Malt and other Necessaries of Life,

Period.	Butcher's meat per stone.	Ale and beer per gallon.	Linen and woollen cloths per yard.	Butter and cheese per pound.	Labour and Wages per day.
From the year 1000, to the conquest by K. William I. 1066.					
From the year 1066, to the first year of K. John 1199.					Labour £.0 04
From the year 1199 to the first year of K. Edward II. 1307.		£.0. 0. 1 $\frac{1}{4}$			A cart with two horses £.0. 2. 7 A cart with three horses £.0. 3. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
From the year 1307 to the war with France by K. Henry V. 1418.	Ox's carcase £. 2. 14. 0 Sheep's ditto £.0.9.1 Hog's ditto £. 0. 4. 10 Pig's ditto £.0.0.8	£.0. 0. 7 $\frac{3}{4}$			Carpenters, masons and ty- lers £.0.0.9 $\frac{1}{2}$ A man at arms £.0. 2. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ Cross-bowman £.0. 0. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ Archer £.0.0.6 Common la- bourer 0.0.4 $\frac{1}{2}$
From the year 1418 to the in- troduction of hops into Eng- land 1524.		£.0. 0. 2 $\frac{3}{4}$	Fine linen £.0.1.9 Russet 0.1.9 Woollen cloth £.0.7.5 Fine scarlet ditto £.2.0.3 Fine coloured ditto £.1.7.10		Artificers £.0. 0. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ Labourers £.0. 0. 3 $\frac{3}{4}$
From the year 1524 to the se- cond year of K. James I. 1604.	Beef and pork £.0.0.11 Mutton and veal £.0.0.7	£.0.0. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$		Best Butter £.0.0. 5	Haymakers £0.0. 2
From the year 1603 to the first year of K. Charles I. 1625.		Ale £.0. 0. 4 Small beer £.0.0. 2			
From the year 1625 to the common- wealth seques- tering college estates 1645.					Foot foldier £.0. 1. 0 Horseman £.0. 2. 6

from the Year 1000 to 1765, divided into Periods of Circumstances.

Period.	Butchers meat per stone.	Ale and beer per gallon.	Linen and woollen cloths per yard.	Butter and cheese per pound.	Labour and Wages per day.
From the year 1645 to the restoration of K. Charles II. 1660.		Ale £.0.0.4 Small beer £.0.0.2			
From the year 1660 to the next harvest after the bounty given to ex- port corn 1690.	Beef and Pork £.0.1.2 Veal and mut- ton £.0.1.4	Strong £.0.0.8 Small 0.0.2½	Fine scarlet cloth £.1.2.0 Fine coloured cloth £.0.18.0	Butter £0.0.4½ Cheese 0.0.2	Foot soldier £.0.0.5 Horseman Labour 0.0.10
From the year 1690 to the first duty laid on malt 1697.		Strong £0.0.10 Small 0.0.3			
From the year 1697 to the extension of the bounty granted to ex- port corn 1706.		Strong £0.0.10 Small 0.0.3			
From the year 1706 to the limiting the bounty given to export malt 1730.	Beef and mut- ton £.0.1.8 Veal and Pork £.0.2.0	Brown strong £.0.1.0 Brown small £.0.0.2 Pale strong £.0.1.4 Pale small £.0.0.3			
From the year 1730 to the additional duty laid on malt 1760.	Beef £.0.2.0 Mutton 0.2.0 Veal 0.2.8 Pork 0.2.6	Brown strong £.0.1.0 Brown small £.0.0.2 Pale strong £.0.1.4 Pale small £.0.0.3	Fine scarlet cloth £.1.0.0 Fine colours cloth £.0.17.0	Butter £0.0.9 Cheese 0.0.3½	Artificers £.0.2.6 Horse soldiers Foot soldiers £.0.0.5 Seamen £0.0.9 Labourers £.0.1.8
From the year 1760 to 1765.	Beef £.0.3.0 Mutton 0.3.0 Veal 0.3.8 Pork 0.3.4	Brown strong £.0.1.2 Brown small £.0.0.2 Pale Strong £.0.1.4 Pale small £.0.0.3	Fine linen £.0.3.6	Butter £.0.0.10 Cheese 0.0.5¼	Artificers £.0.2.9 Labourers £.0.1.8.

An Account of Part of Consequences, that have ensued by granting a large Bounty to export Corn when at high Prices, and the Amount of these compared with the Sum received for Grain, exported from the Year 1689 to 1765.

	£.	s.	d.
Bounty paid by the government for the exportation of corn — — —	6,058,702.	10.	11
Three-pence per quarter allowed for malt made for exportation from 1726, N ^o . of quarters 8,312,710 — — —	103,408.	17.	6
A. Malt computed to have been thrown into the sea 1,260,320 quarters, the barley estimated $\frac{1}{7}$ and at 10 s. per quarter —	90,022.	17.	6
B. The number of people in England and Wales may be estimated 6,000,000, their expence one with another for the necessaries of life £.7. per annum each, of which $\frac{1}{3}$ part is expended for bread; other provisions since the bounty given to export corn have rose in price cent. per cent. but in this account £.25 per cent. only is charged for the effects arising from the diminution of pasture, from the monopolizing of land, from engrossing, forestalling, and with-holding of provisions	525,000,000.	0.	0
C. By importations of grain made since the bounty given			
75,216 quarters of barley valued at 24 s. per quarter	90,259.	4.	0
1,011,755 quarters of oats ditto at 15 s. per quarter	758,816.	5.	0
21,643 quarters of oa meal ditto at 30 s. per quarter	32,464.	10.	0
199,884 quarters of rye ditto at 32 s. per quarter	319,814.	8.	0
283,441 quarters of wheat ditto at 48 s. per quarter	680,258.	8.	0
D. By interest paid on corn-debentures not immediately discharged from the year 1753			
By the removal or desertion of 148,694 families from the year 1688 to 1758; estimating each family to be four persons at £.7. expence each per annum; $\frac{1}{3}$ part of this sum might be charged as a loss to the kingdom. See the observations 1688 and 1758			
By the decay of manufactures in general see the observations 1698, 1700, 1706, 1707, 1709, 1727, 1728, 1730, 1735, 1738, 1740, 1741, 1748, 1751, 1752, 1753, 1754, 1756, 1757, 1758, &c. &c.			
Cash received for corn exported — —	533,133,747.	0.	11
	36,901,332.	19.	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
Loss — — —	£.496,232,414.	1.	5 $\frac{3}{4}$
Annual loss occasioned by the bounty granted to export corn — — —	£.6,616,432.	3.	9
Or which is the same thing; for 75 years past the people of England, one year with another, have laboured under the annual expence of £.7,108,449. 19. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$, and more for some individuals to receive £.492,017. 15. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ per annum.			

A. In the year 1730 an act passed, regulating the increase that should be allowed on barley malted for exportation, and it was fixed, three quarters of malt from two quarters of barley; the act was made because before this time it had been customary to make and shew an increase of seven or eight quarters of malt produced from one quarter of barley, and on this seven or eight quarters to receive the bounties amounting to £. c. 2. 9 per quarter; thus a profit of cent. per cent. was made, by shipping this ill-manufactured grain, and when out of sight of land, to cast it into the sea.

Mean quantity of malt per Ann. exported from	Quarters.
1711 to 1730 — — — — —	244729
Mean quantity of malt per Ann. exported from	
1731 to 1740 — — — — —	181713
Difference which fraudulently obtained the bounty	
per annum — — — — —	63016

This practice continued for 20 years, and valuing the $\frac{1}{7}$ part as so much barley lost to the kingdom at £. o. 10. 0 per quarter makes the sum charged.

B. That from the revolution, the price of provisions increased cent. per cent. is notorious, but as the rise came on gradually, (for this £.50. per cent. is deducted,) a part of this rise may be attributed to the increase of taxes, and to a greater sum of real and artificial money being now current in the kingdom than was at that time, so £.25 per cent. more is taken off; the remaining £.25 per cent. is placed to the account of the reasons there mentioned.

Nothing is charged for the increased price of corn from the year 1689 to 1765, which for wheat and malt is very considerable, compared to the prices they bore on an average, during the whole reign of king James I. the nearest and most similar space of time this comparison can be made with.

C. These accounts are for money expended to bring corn into the kingdom, where enough had not been retained, and charged only at such prices at which the bounty ceases, though undoubtedly much more was paid to obtain them.

D. These articles, though of great consequence, have been left unvalued, the two last, if not wholly, have in a great measure been occasioned by monopolizing of farms, by the high prices of provisions, and by the necessary consequence of this, the increased price of labour.

It will clearly appear, the foregoing account is no where strained; the national loss on the contrary is modified, many articles which might take place therein are omitted, and some, whose evaluations are left to the reader's discretion; yet so great

does the evil appear, and of such consequence to these kingdoms, that no doubt should be left concerning its true cause, collateral proofs therefore cannot be misplaced here.

If the people of England and Wales be 6,000,000 in number, they require a certain quantity of land to grow grain for themselves, beside pasture for cattle. Heaths, commons, downs and woods are in many respects of advantage to the poor, who for this small emolument are enabled to return the benefit to their superiors: every inclosure then of common land above what is necessary to raise our own supply, is a means not only to lessen the number of industrious poor, but even to raise the price of every kind of provision; so that though much land has been inclosed and tilled to answer the demands of exportation, yet has it not been done without being a general charge on the community; by finding how much land is required for our home consumption of barley, oats, rye and wheat, and how much for the quantities of these exported we shall have the proportion they bare one to the other.

	Annual home-con- sumption. Quarters.	Acres required.	Mean of the quantities exported from 1741 to 1765. Quarters.	Acres required.
OF BARLEY, Mean yield of land is 5 quarters per acre.	4,333,125	866,625	219,565	43,913
OF OATS, Mean yield of land is 5 quarters per acre.	4,252,725	850,545	3,457	691
OF RYE, Mean yield of land is 2 quarters 4 bushels per acre.	1,030,000	412,000	52,370	20,948
OF * WHEAT, Mean yield of land is 4 quarters per acre.	3,840,000	960,000	336,123	84,031
		3,089,170		149,583

By this it appears the proportion of land employed to grow corn for exportation, is nearly as one to twenty, of that cultivated for the people of England; according to Mr. King's rule, the bare

* Bradley corrected, *A general Treatise of Agriculture*, pag. 7. says, "The largest produce of an acre of wheat-land seems to be ten quarters per acre. Mr. Yelverton of Ireland in 1742 had from one acre, English measure, 13 quarters 2 bushels of wheat." See *Reduction Economique*, pag. 74.

bare application of this land to other purposes, than for national use, must raise the price of provisions in general £.15 per cent. and £.19 per cent. bounty added to this, given to induce foreigners to purchase corn here, in preference to the natives themselves; these two circumstances considered as a power given to the farmer to engross land, and with-hold the sale of provisions, are sufficient to account for the excess of price on all the necessaries of life the land produces; which will more clearly appear by examining the profits, at present yielded by agriculture in England.

An Account of the Charge for cultivating ten Acres of arable Land, and of its neat Produce for four Years.

First W H E A T.

	£.	s.	d.
Rent of 10 acres at £.0.12.6 * per acre for the fall- low year	6.	5.	0
Rent of 10 acres at £.0.12.6 per acre, sown with wheat	6.	5.	0
Ploughing 4 times at £.0.12.6 per acre	6.	5.	0
Harrowing 3 times at £.0.2.0 per acre	1.	0.	0
Lime 30 chaldrons at £.0.8.0 per chaldron	12.	0.	0
Seed 2 quarters 4 bushels at £.1.13.5½ per quarter	4.	3.	7½
Weeding twice at £.0.1.6 per acre	0.	15.	0
Reaping £.0.4.0 per acre	2.	0.	0
Carriage and stacking at £.0.2.6 per acre	1.	5.	0
Tythe £.0.5.0 per acre	2.	10.	0
Threshing 60 days work for one man at £.0.1.0 per day	3.	0.	0
Fencing	1.	5.	0

46. 13. 7½

Where wheat is early sown 10 acres will feed 50 sheep of the largest size which will yield a profit of £.0.4.0 each	£.	s.	d.
	10.	0.	0

Mean crop 4 quarters of wheat per acre, or 40 quarters at £.1.13.5½ per quarter	66.	18.	4
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Straw 130 thraves at £.0.1.0 per thrave	6.	10.	0
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83. 8. 4

Profit £. 36. 14. 8½

Third

* This is supposed rather to exceed the mean price of arable land per acre, statute-measure, in England; and is rather less than what is paid for the same quantity in France. Monsieur Dupré de Saint Maur, *Essai sur les Monnoies*, pag. 26, *Estime le fermage des terres in petite culture a quinze livres par arpent au plus, on peut juger par la, de la maniere dont elles sont cultivees, et de ce quelles rapportent au fermier*, (Maupin's *Reduction Economique*, pag. 51,) and *quinze livres par arpent*, is equal to £. 0. 12. 11 per acre.

Third year, B A R L E Y.

Rent as before	—	—	—	£.	s.	d.
Ploughing twice at £.0.7.6 per acre	—	—	—	3.	15.	0
Harrowing twice at £.0.1.4 per acre	—	—	—	0.	13.	4
Seed 3 quarters 6 bushels at £.0.18.6 per quarter	—	—	—	3.	9.	4½
Weeding once at £.0.1.6 per acre	—	—	—	0.	15.	0
Reaping £.0.3.0 per acre	—	—	—	1.	10.	0
Carriage, binding and stacking at £.0.2.0 per acre	—	—	—	1.	0.	0
Tythe £.0.4.0 per acre	—	—	—	2.	0.	0
Threshing 32 days work for one man	—	—	—	1.	12.	0
Fencing	—	—	—	1.	5.	0
				22.	4.	8½
Mean crop 5 quarters of barley per acre, or 50 quarters at £.0.18.6 per quarter	—	—	—	46.	5.	0
Straw	—	—	—	1.	15.	0
				48.	0.	0
Profit				25.	15	3½

Fourth year, O A T s.

Rent as above	—	—	—	—	—	£.	s.	d.
Ploughing once at £.0.4.6 per acre	—	—	—	—	—	2.	5.	0
Seed 5 quarters at £.0.13.4½ per quarter	—	—	—	—	—	3.	6.	10½
Weeding once at £.0.1.6 per acre	—	—	—	—	—	0.	15.	0
Reaping £.0.3.0 per acre	—	—	—	—	—	1.	10.	0
Binding, carriage and stacking at £.0.2.0. per acre	—	—	—	—	—	1.	0.	0
Tythe, £.0.3.0 per acre	—	—	—	—	—	1.	10.	0
Threshing 32 days work for one man	—	—	—	—	—	1.	12.	0
Fencing	—	—	—	—	—	1.	5.	0
						19.	8.	10½
Mean crop of oats 5 quarters per								
acre, or 50 quarters at £.0.13.4½								
per quarter	—	—	—	—	—	33.	8.	9
Straw	—	—	—	—	—	1.	15.	0
						35.	3.	9
Profit						15.	14.	10½

Expence.

	Expence.	Produce.	Profit per cent.
1st and 2d year—	£.46. 13. 7 $\frac{3}{4}$	£.83. 8. 4	£.78. 13. 10
3d year—	22. 4. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	48. 0. 0	115. 17. 5
4th year—	19. 8. 10 $\frac{1}{4}$	35. 3. 9	80. 19. 4 $\frac{3}{4}$
	88. 7. 2 $\frac{3}{4}$	166. 12. 1	275. 10. 7 $\frac{3}{4}$

	£.	s.	d.
Mean rent and charges, for cultivating one acre of } arable land, per annum — — — }	2.	4.	2
Mean profit of arable land, per acre per annum —	1.	19.	4 $\frac{1}{4}$
Mean profit of arable land per cent. per annum — —	68.	17.	7 $\frac{3}{4}$

Had I stated these accounts according to Mr. Tull's practice of husbandry, the profits made would have been considerably more, as this gentleman avoids the expence of manure and fallowing, and yet declares from experiments of his own, the yield of wheat per acre, to be equal to that here is set down: but what will prove the veracity of these calculations beyond contradiction, is the known and general rule made use of, at the expiration, or change of leases from one person to another: for wheat, where the going out-tenant has not the way-going crop, he is allowed £. 3. 10. 0 per acre for seed and culture, if justice has been done to the land; and if it has been neglected, somewhat of this allowance is abated. Now deducting the harvest charges from those made in the foregoing accounts, this rule will be found as equitable as it is of common practice. In like case, £. 2. 0. 0 per acre is allowed for the way-going crop of barley, and £. 1. 10. 0 per acre for that of oats; both these, in our accounts will be found to agree with a custom and rule, certainly instituted by farmers of the most knowledge, and experience.

From this enquiry, we presume, the following inferences may be drawn:

Industry and trade, are undoubtedly the foundations of the land-owners wealth; in proportion as these are neglected, depressed, or diverted from their proper channels, will the strength of a nation, and the wealth of its proprietors be reduced.

When from the high prices of the necessaries of life, a temporary prohibition to export corn takes place, this is barely an act of necessity, it may stop the hasty approach of famine; but as it doth not remove the cause, (the excess of transporting grain) nor bring back any part of what before has been sent away, scarcely can it be termed a temporary relief: a free permission to import corn, does somewhat more, but this in general leaves with the foreigner, a profit on the produce of our own lands, and with it all the bounty paid to induce him to make, this, his property: more provident measures appear necessary, otherwise England cannot hope to enjoy a moderate plenty, unless all

Europe has the same, in a greater degree than herself, a superiority which must attract to it, the superiority of trade.

The acquisition of one manufacture, is of greater benefit to a kingdom, than the exportation of many years corn. (See A. D. 1358.)

An uniformity in weights and measures, is of absolute necessity to a well governed state: saying, custom has established such a variety in these, that it is next to an impossibility to correct this habit, is asserting, the government wants power to enforce obedience to just laws.

Few evils so universal, but some individuals are benefited thereby, who carefully hide the true cause of the calamity, to continue their profits.

To divert the attention of the public from the distresses incurred by the labouring poor, they have been taxed with luxury and debauch; in every trading kingdom, where a great exertion of strength and faculties, are put forth, the means of recruiting these exhausted powers become necessary: if the labouring poor be in number only one half of the people of England, as the quantity of strong beer, brewed for sale is about 4,000,000 barrels per annum, this does not amount for each, to one pint per day.

To vindicate the high prices of the necessaries of life, it has been said, necessity is the mother of industry: but is not necessity also the mother of temptation, vice, and despair? Industry may perhaps get the better of an accidental short-lived necessity; but when necessity is made permanent, and the maintaining it so, is thought to be the interest of some, though but of few, in comparison to the whole; if industry cannot find a shelter elsewhere, it must be crushed.

As much as sobriety is earnestly recommended to the poor, by the grower of provisions; so much should equity, and conscientiousness be enforced by the first, to the last.

The low wages of the French poor, are frequently put in comparison with the wages given in England; the value of the necessaries of life, the immediate cause of this, is seldom mentioned; in general, land in France is let at as high rents as here (*see Reduction Economique par Mons. Maupin, page 115.*) the average price of the best wheat in France for many years past the same author estimates to be £. 1. 3. 8 per quarter, with us it has been £. 1. 13. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$. I never heard a comparison made between the farmers of the two kingdoms, both, are the first proprietors of the necessaries of life most surely the profit of agriculture in France is not £. 70 per cent.

Equally as it was right to restrain the laborious part of mankind from the abuse of malt-spirits, in order to preserve their healths; so should effectual methods be taken, to prevent the with-holding of provisions from markets, thereby to put a stop to a more dreadful evil, Starving.

Debasing

Debasing the coin has always been attended with confusion and loss, both to the promoters of it, and to the publick.

A sudden glut of wealth, such as reached Europe soon after the discovery of America; until it finds its proper level, by an increase of the number of conveniencies of life, and a greater elegance of them; may distress both agriculture and the industrious poor: artificial money, when supported by an undoubted credit, in proportion to its quantity will act in like manner, but when short of esteem, will be productive of all the evils consequent of base coin.

A great plenty of money under some circumstances may raise the price of land, and in time, that of provisions; but when this is the effect of exporting industry and manufactures, the means of supporting such advanced prices, and the credit necessary to artificial money, accompany them.

As from the increased quantity of money, the interest of it becomes less, so in general the works of industry have been reduced in price: in the time of Henry VII. scarlet cloth sold for £.2. 0. 3 per yard, coloured cloth at £.1.7.10 per yard, this manufacture is mentioned because then, as well as now, woollen cloths were the staple commodities of this kingdom: these prices together, are almost cent per cent dearer than at present the same goods sell for: the mean price of wheat in this king's reign was £.0. 11. 3 per quarter, from 1689 to 1765 the average of it is £.1. 13. 5½ per quarter, a difference of two hundred per cent. in favour of agriculture; from whence it is clear the produce of land, and land itself, have rose in value from the industry of our manufacturers, and from our merchants being satisfied with less profits, to bring home a plenty of money, which ultimately advances the land-owners interest; but industry has its bounds, and in commerce there is a period at which it yields no profit; these are when the manufacturer's diligence is not sufficient to purchase to him the necessaries of life, and when foreigners are enabled to export like commodities to ours at cheaper rates than we possibly can; to maintain then the value of land, undoubtedly the industrious poor should be supplied with provisions in preference to foreigners, especially if they can be imported at easy rates, from any part of our own dominions.

The interest of money may be one rule to judge of its plenty or scarcity. Mr. Postlethwaite says, "the real cash or money necessary to carry on the circulation of a state, is nearly one third part of all the annual rents, of the proprietors of the said state; but whether money be scarce or plenty, this proportion will not change; for if it be scarce, the proprietor will sell his land for less money, and if it be plenty he will sell it for more:" if land is purchased at a dear rate, the rent may rise, and from hence alone should a plenty of money affect the prices of the necessaries of life, in what proportion with regard to wheat, hereafter will be considered; but this rise of rents must be slow, as the leases expire, and then with difficulty:

it is true a great plenty of money often introduces with it much luxury, and where by large bounties and by an excessive exportation of corn, the profits of agriculture are made by far to exceed those of rents and of commerce, then luxury will reach the farmer's household; the consumers of the necessaries of life, the poor, who are most in number, will be made to pay these excesses; in return, they must exact more wages, and in a commercial state their labour or manufactures must then be exported at advanced prices; which foreigners will exert their utmost industry to avoid complying with, by supplying their wants from elsewhere; for never will the whole world submit to be taxed, for the maintenance of a small, but luxurious proportion of one nation; thus misplaced wealth takes wing and flies away; want of employment, and want of industry, must soon bring on a want of money: not the increase of riches, but the misapplication of it, ruins kingdoms.

The advance of rents, has frequently been urged to justify the high prices of provisions, and to engage the land-owner to turn his face from the general oppression; if rents were increased one third part throughout the kingdom, or near £.30 per cent. however much this would appear, yet as the mean crop of wheat is allowed to be four quarters from an acre; this excess of rent, complained of, would not amount to two pence per bushel; the plenty the land has produced, the prices that corn and provisions have of late years been at, and at the same time the power and temptation to with-hold these from sale, shew with how great severity, this bare pretence has been retaliated upon the publick in general, but more particularly on the industrious poor, the support of trade, and by far the majority of the people of Great-Britain: the proportion of rent compared to the value of the produce of the land, will prove this assertion to be true.

The increase of taxes, has been urged as a reason why the necessaries of life must be at high rates. Mr. Massie in 1761 calculated the taxes paid by the farmer, to amount to £.0.1.10 in the pound upon his annual expences, which perhaps is full much: but if the farmer's expences be estimated one fourth part of the money he circulates, or of his returns, the price wheat should exceed that which it bore in the reign of king James I. on account of more taxes paid, is £.0.0.6½ per quarter only.

The increased number of people and of houses, in and about the city of London have been made use of for the same purpose: in King William III. his reign, the inhabitants of this city and of the adjacent buildings amounted to 700,000 persons; the badness of the roads at that time, were such they could scarcely be supplied with provisions from an extent of country more than ten miles round; this would make the area of land which furnished them, about 314 miles; if at present the inhabitants of the same places be 900,000, it is certain their supply of provisions from better roads, and more convenient communications, extend at this time above 20 miles about; and makes the present area of land to supply them with the necessaries of life

1256 miles; from whence a greater plenty must have been the consequence: rude, as this calculation is, it is a sufficient reply to the assertion.

The English distillery has been taxed, with the being the cause of the high price of grain; yet in its most flourishing state, it scarcely consumed a quantity of corn, equal to what was exported to the Dutch, for the same purpose.

Under proper regulations, no doubt can be made of the utility of the English distillery, especially for exportation; when prejudice and interest have overacted their parts, it will be found, brandies may be produced from British corn, equal in goodness to those of France; for home consumption, and for the coast of Africa, British spirits might become a very considerable branch of commerce, at the same time, as it would expend, and employ the grain of England.

It is not long since it was an established custom in England, in times of plenty, to store up great quantities of wheat, barley, coals, &c; for many ages this practice was continued without interruption, on account of the good effects resulting from it: corn kept, and reserved in the hands of the opulent farmers, or of corn-merchants, (I wish there was no occasion to add, both at home and abroad,) is said at present to answer this purpose; and so it would, were their interests, and that of the publick, one and the same; but these being directly opposite, it certainly behoves the publick to provide for itself; and if the land-holder must be gratified with a large sum, from out of the publick revenue to increase his private profits, better might it be to give a bounty to purchase stores, when corn sells at low rates, than for exportation.

Formerly the baker bought his wheat, and the miller far from being a trader, was only a person employed to grind: in 1570, we find attempts were made, to put this part of the business more immediately under the baker's inspection; it were to be wished mechanism could again reach so far, and leave no room for objection.

Heretofore if corn was dear, other provisions were cheap; employing pasture, or common land, that should raise a great part of the necessaries of life, to grow grain for exportation, must certainly advance the purchase of them.

The proportion of persons employed by agriculture, compared to the whole number of inhabitants, in the kingdom, is nearly one fourth; it is saying too much when it is asserted, the share of government expences the first bear, is equal to the other three fourths.

Habits of long standing, and prejudices, such as formerly was the case, when farmers for great gains relied almost wholly on pasture, are with difficulty changed, and often not to be overcome unless by granting bounties to obtain this; but the intent once reached, continuing gratuities without necessity, must in the end, act to the detriment of those who bestow them.

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When the farmer's gain considerably exceeds the land-owner's rent, the end must be, purchasing the landlord's property; this is laying a foundation to subvert subordination, a capital link in the chain of government.

There is a want of propriety, in comparing the prices of corn for a certain number of years, with just a preceding equal space, unless the circumstances of both periods be the same: seeking similar circumstances, for such comparisons, appears far more eligible; but distant actions, times, and places very seldom exactly agree: the nearest, and most similar æra, we have to compare with, in order to see if the bounty given to export corn has reduced the price thereof, or has in general benefitted England, is the reign of king James I.; during this, the average price of wheat was £.1.12.3 $\frac{1}{2}$ per quarter: since the bounty has been given to 1765 it was £.1.13.5 $\frac{1}{2}$ per quarter; the advance is £.3.12.3 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. if bread was the only sustenance of mankind, this scarcely would be worth notice; but small as this increase may appear, it has occasioned all the other necessaries of life to be more than double in price.

It has been said, that England by giving a bounty to export corn, is become the grainary of the whole world: this should denote excessive plenty, and the superior happiness of its own inhabitants; the number of people in England and Wales are computed to be six millions: the export of corn when greatest, was one tenth only of its yearly produce, consequently could supply the wants but of six hundred thousand persons: the assertion then, is very figurative, or the whole world very small; if not so, the complaints made for so many years, of the excessive dearness of the necessaries of life in England, prove that in supplying a very minute part of the world, we have been heedless, and very improvident.

England gives £.0.4.1 $\frac{1}{2}$ to export one quarter of barley, under the name of malt; and her own subjects pay a tax of £.1.6.0 for manufacturing the same quantity of grain, into one of the necessaries of life.

The abuse occasioned by placing malt upon the same footing as barley, has before been mentioned; no more bounty should be allowed on malt exported, than for the quantity of barley from which it was made; it has never answered any good purpose to allow, beside the bounty given, three pence per quarter for making malt for exportation; this additional compliment to the Dutch distillery, and to encourage the making of the worst malt in England, might surely have been spared.

There being no account of the corn exported for the first seven years, after the act passed allowing a bounty for this purpose, although during this term it was four years under the exporting price, gives great room to believe the limits for regulating the bounty, are not to be taken in a literal sense.

If the grower of provisions is by no means to be restrained, but is left to do with the produce of the earth, what he judges

to be most advantageous to his own private interest, the publick, of whom he makes his advantage, must be very generous indeed, to give him an excessive bounty to act against themselves.

In excuse for withholding provisions, or disposing of them at exorbitant prices, it has too frequently been said, that every man is at liberty to do as he likes with his own, or to make the best advantage he can of his property; if so, this surely is a natural, not a civil liberty, as in this the benefit of mankind is not in the least consulted, but meerly and solely private interest: it cannot then be said to be the liberty of a citizen, or of one who lives under the protection of any community; it is rather the liberty of a savage; therefore he who avails himself thereof, deserves not that protection, the power of society affords.

A great and misplaced bounty given to export corn, has made the persons professing agriculture so powerful, that they have prosecuted every means, and employed every art to maintain themselves so; even the land itself has notoriously been monopolized; as much as should find a comfortable maintenance for ten farmers families, has been grasped into the hands of one.

That there is and has been a scarcity, is by all allowed; but what sort of scarcity must that be? or where is the propriety to say, exorbitant prices are become necessary to enable the farmer to pay his rent? when, beside the many barns full, and many ricks standing, corn of two and three years old, appear publickly for sale in markets.

Monopoly is an epidemical distemper, it has produced an infinite number of agents, corn-jobbers, meal-men, &c. &c. persons who neither grew corn themselves, or in any shape manufactured it; but whose whole study, and whose whole profits depended on employing every art to raise the price of it: nor did they stop here, many of them became the proprietors of every conveyance to cities, towns, and markets; as a means to supply, or starve them at pleasure, or as it best suited their lucrative views.

The fewer persons there are, between the grower of provisions and the consumer, less profits will be requisite, and there will be fewer frauds; to this end markets were instituted, the farmer's attendance there, is a material part of his duty; he should not be suffered to secret or to dispose of his goods elsewhere: what general good end the meal-man's business has answered, has hitherto been undiscovered; the bad effects thereof have frequently and publickly appeared.

One profession is sufficient for one person, such as engage in more, incroach on their neighbours province: whatever excuse is brought, to palliate this, will not prevent its being the means, to lessen the number of families in the kingdom; though it may be a private benefit, yet certainly it is a publick wrong.

With regard to the provisions, necessary for a free trading people, to argue on wheat alone, must be supposing this, to be sufficient for their support; but bread, and water added to it, is the sustenance allotted to criminals; as yet, it has not been judged

judged to be sufficient food for slaves; to preserve to a nation its trade, and its industrious poor, all the provisions necessary and convenient for them, must be taken into consideration; and the means to obtain these be made easy and reasonable.

Though enough has been said to induce us to suppress many reflections, which might be added; yet this subject must not be dismissed, without shewing how an excessive exportation of grain, not only enhances the price of every specie of corn, but also, in a far greater proportion than of every other necessary of life, a matter equal to, if not of greater concern than the object we immediately have had before us.

About two centuries since, the habit of exporting unwrought wool had reached to such height; that the husbandman for his wealth seemed determined on the ruin of the manufacture, which brought home the greatest profits, and power to the country; his whole attention rested on the number and increase of sheep; to maintain these, pasture land was in great request, and tillage was neglected; unless in very favourable years, scarcely was a sufficient quantity of corn produced for the use of the kingdom: so that an exportation of corn, or any accident whatever, brought on an almost immediate want of bread; although all other provisions were at cheap rates; a polity which would have made England mistress of the whole woollen trade, most certainly would have adjusted this disproportion in the disposition of the land, and have considerably increased the number of people; but in 1689 it was thought better to enforce an increase of arable land, by bestowing on foreigners a large premium to purchase their bread, and malt to make their spirits, in our corn-markets: this measure it is true increased the proportion of corn-land; but the demand for grain from abroad exceeding much what could or should be spared, from hence not only it grew dearer, but pasture land being thereby made less in quantity, all other provisions, and consequently labour, advanced in price; and in proportion as this was the case, our commerce in general, and the staple manufacture of the land, in particular, were injured: let us endeavour to trace the rule under which these great events took place.

Mr. King, an ingenuous and accurate political arithmetician, and who lived about the middle of the space of time we shall take in view, estimated a year of moderate plenty to be, when wheat sold at £. 1. 8. 0 per quarter, rye at £. 1. 0. 0, barley £. 0. 16. 0, oats £. 0. 12. 0, and pease and beans at £. 1. 0. 0 per quarter; he likewise tells us, one tenth (or 0,10 parts of 100) defect, in the harvest, will raise the price of corn three tenths (or 0,30) above the common rate; that two tenths (or 0,20) defect will advance the price eight tenths (or 0,80,) and three tenths (or 0,30) deficiency, will advance it, one and six tenths, or (1,60).

Deficiency, or a defect of quantity from any cause, or by any means whatever, must produce similar consequences, in every kind of provision the earth produces.

From the year 1595, we have a successive account of the prices of corn to the year 1690, the first harvest after the act passed to allow a bounty to export grain; (exclusive of the chasm from 1641 to 1646) the average price of wheat for this term is £.1. 17. 0 $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ per quarter, which is £.0. 9. 0 $\frac{1}{4}$ more than Mr. King's moderate price, an excess upon the whole caused by a deficiency of arable land of 0,13, which occasioned wheat to advance 0,40.

From the year 1689 to 1765, we found the mean price of wheat to be £.1. 13. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ per quarter, that is £.0. 5. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$, or 0,19 more than the above equitable value.

The quantities exported in this last period, added to the home consumption, plainly shew that England, in this term, cultivated one twentieth or 0,05 more land than was necessary to furnish her own people with corn at moderate prices; notwithstanding which, the excess of price for corn during this time is equal to a deficiency in arable land of 0,06.

The quantity of arable land originally wanted to	}	0,13
equal the consumption was — — —		
After this, from the great encouragement given to	}	0,05
export corn, more land was taken from pasture		
equal to — — —		
To which add, for the advanced price occasioned by	}	0,06
exportation — — — —		

The several causes, which occasioned an advance on	}	0,24
the produce of pasture-land, is equal to a defi-		
ciency of — — — —		

which must have occasioned an increase of price, on all other the necessaries of life beside corn, from the time the bounty has been granted to 1765, of more than cent. per cent.

Experience has most certainly proved the rule laid down by Mr. King to be true: from 1595 to 1689, the mean price of beef, mutton, veal and pork was £.0. 1. 0 per stone, but the same provisions from 1689 to 1765 were £.0. 2. 3 per stone; and since a farther increase has remarkably kept pace with the effects of an excess of exportation.*

It might appear invidious, by continuing these calculations, to point out to what price provisions from pasture would reach, supposing the average value of wheat for a few years only, from a continued encouragement given to export grain, was so much as where the bounty at present is limited, or £.2. 8. 0 per quarter; sufficient it is, we have seen an advance in price for wheat of little more than £.3 per cent. has doubled them; better is it

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* This calculation is built on a supposition, that the necessary quantity of pasture-land is equal to the necessary quantity of arable; if it be more, which some estimates give room to believe, certainly there is less reason to curtail it; if it be less, what is taken from it, must advance the prices of the provisions it produces, in a much greater proportion.

to remove from sight a prospect of boundless distress, especially when there is power sufficient, and no doubt inclination, not only to remedy the present, but to preserve this kingdom from so great an evil: more agreeably shall we close this treatise, if from the circumstances we have observed, and from numbers, we can determine, the highest price for wheat, and consequently for every specie of grain; when just so much has been grown, or the quantity remaining in stock is no more, than what barely will suffice the wants of its inhabitants.

We found the proportion of thirteen parts out of one hundred, was in 1595 the quantity of arable land that was wanting in England, to produce a sufficiency of corn for home consumption: this, could be obtained but by lessening so much, what then was in grass: had the increase of tillage stopped here, from hence alone every produce from pasture, must have rose £. 40 per cent. but as all the necessaries of life, in their value should be in proportion one to another; though this was an increase of land in favour of tillage, yet the price of corn, would not by so much have lessened; from hence the importation of the deficiency was only prevented: although Mr. King, and after him Doctor Davenant for his time, fixes the moderate price of wheat at £. 1. 8. 0 per quarter, and that in the first year of king James I. it was enacted, wheat should not be exported if more than £. 1. 6. 8 per quarter, to shew a partiality to arable land; let us, as we before intended, be governed by the mean price wheat bore during the whole term of this king's reign, or £. 1. 12. 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ per quarter; to this add for the increase of rents £. 0. 1. 4 and £. 0. 0. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ per quarter more, for the additional taxes since laid; and we shall have £. 1. 14. 2 for the price of a quarter of wheat, in our time, taken at its greatest height, when a bare sufficiency remains for the use of the people of England, a price to which the generality of mankind seem to acquiesce; below which, under proper regulations, few or no murmurs would there be, if some part of our plenty was spared to neighbouring states, with a view to maintain the just gains of agriculture; but beyond which, if exported either with or without a bounty, as thereby the necessary quantity must be lessened, experience has shewn, that the proprietor who owns, as well as the husbandman who tills the land, the manufacturer who labours to increase its value, and in general all who pay towards its support and defence, must be injured.

Since £. 1. 13. 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ per quarter has been found to be the average price of wheat, during the whole time the bounty given to export it has acted; no reason appears, why an encouragement should be given to send corn abroad when wheat exceeds in price £. 1. 14. 0 per quarter, though we have seen, many might be found, for fixing this at a lower rate.

If £. 1. 14. 0 per quarter, be the limit for exporting wheat with a bounty of £. 0. 5. 0; the limit of rye will be £. 1. 2. 0 per quarter, with a bounty of £. 0. 3. 6; for barley £. 0. 17. 0 per

per quarter, with a bounty of £. o. 2. 6; and for oats it will be £. o. 13. 0 per quarter, with a bounty of £. o. 2. 0.

If wheat, by a succession of plentiful years, came to be so low in price as £. 1. 8. 0 per quarter, rye as £. o. 19. 0, barley as £. o. 14. 0, and oats as £. o. 10. 6 per quarter; the encouragement given to export when grain were at these rates, might be increased for wheat to £. o. 6. 0 per quarter, and in a like proportion for other grain.

The limits at which the bounty for exportation is granted, should not be determined by the price of corn at one or two ports, or markets only, as this might be sending abroad the provisions raised, in one part of the kingdom, to the detriment of the other; London, Lincoln, Derby, York, Manchester, Coventry, Gloucester, Winchester, and Exeter; should jointly, and at the same time acknowledge the fitness and propriety of exportation.

Markets should be appointed by patent, and all corn should be sold there openly, according to law; proper clerks or officers should attend, and see what there is exposed to sale, whether corn, malt, or any other grain, that it be wholesome, well manufactured, and of fit use for the publick; the statutes relative to the uniformity of weights and measures, and those regulating the business, and conduct of millers or mealmen, should be strictly complied with, and it might be necessary to register the several prices, the buyers, and sellers names, and for what intent purchased.

The purpose of this treatise was to shew, that proper regulations in the corn-trade, and the consequence of this, a plenty of every specie of provisions, is of the utmost concern to the existence, the strength, and the peace of these kingdoms; the truth thereof, and of the importance of the subject itself cannot better be proved, than as it is, and ought to be, an object of universal attention: among the many questions propounded concerning it, the following appear the most material:

Whether corn should be exported at any time?

Whether the free exportation, and the free importation of it, and of all the necessaries of life should be allowed of?

And lastly, Whether there is a price, below which a bounty should be given to export grain; and under what restrictions, this should be admitted to take place?

It is hoped the foregoing Enquiry will assist the solution of them.

F I N I S.

